

Republican hard man has Bush reeling on the ropes

From Frank Johnson
Merrimack, New Hampshire

Senator Robert Dole moved four points ahead of Vice-President George Bush yesterday in the latest opinion poll of Republican voters for tomorrow's New Hampshire primary.

The *Boston Globe*, which carried out the survey, said that Mr Dole's lead over Mr Bush was so close as to be within a margin of error of 5 per cent plus or minus. Nonetheless, it has convulsed the Republican campaign. Eight days ago, Mr Bush was well ahead in all New Hampshire polls. Then he lost to both Mr Dole and the Rev Pat Robertson, in the Iowa caucuses, and his support began to ebb in New Hampshire. He may still win tomorrow.

President Reagan is much more popular here than in Iowa, where there were grievances against the Administration's farm policy. But Mr Bush may be enduring a fate similar to that which befell Mr Walter Mondale at the hands of Senator Gary Hart here in 1984.

The difficulty that apparent favourites have in controlling the outcome of primaries is, to the foreign visitor, the virtue of the system compared with the sort of control exercised by parties in less open countries. In a primary, matters seem to be arranged to suit some respectable figure such as Mr Bush. Then along comes Senator Dole, who makes jokes, and the Rev Pat Robertson, who makes miracles.

Or at least, Mr Robertson used

● The dark-jewelled creator of havoc is poised for New Hampshire win ●

to make miracles. As he is by now tired of reading, in 1978 he prayed that a hurricane should not hit his television station. It missed. True, it hit somewhere else, and killed several people. But when asked about those deaths last week, Mr Robertson cheerfully replied: "They should've prayed, too."

He is now campaigning as an orthodox, right-ish conservative. He seems to have decided that recourse to miracles might alienate moderate voters. He becomes annoyed when interviewers ask him about the deflected hurricane, his faith healing,

and a remark he once made to the effect that he expected to live to see Armageddon and Christ's return.

To the outsider, it is rather irritating to see liberal interviewers automatically assuming that someone who believes in miracles and the second coming is automatically mad. Theoretically, the Archbishop of Canterbury is supposed to believe in both. But Mr Robertson's views on Armageddon do seem to be a matter of legitimate inquiry in someone trying to become US president in charge of a nuclear arsenal. The

fear must be that those who believe in Armageddon might be tempted to speed up the date.

But Mr Robertson deals with such inquiries with a genial "well, I'm running for president", as if he were now exclusively inhabiting Caesar's realm.

Mr Robertson's realistic hope for tomorrow is to replace the insufficiently exciting Representative Jack Kemp as the strongest conservative and go on to cause immense trouble in the South. Mr Robertson's second place after Mr Dole last week is one of the reasons for Mr Bush's personal crisis now. That, and Mr Dole's jibes.

To the British visitor, the attack on Mr Bush by Mr Dole and Mr Robertson has a familiar plot of

class warfare. One of Mr Dole's supporters drew me aside to point out that in 1950 Mr Bush was loaned \$300,000 by his uncle Herbert, while in the same year Mr Dole was a Kansas county attorney on \$248 a year signing welfare payments for his grandparents.

Mr Bush does not help his own cause. He partly attributed his Iowa defeat — apparently without self-deprecating irony — to many of his supporters being too busy with debutante dances. Mr Robertson was quick to explain to a group of British reporters here: "My supporters don't go to debutante dances. They work at lathe."

I suggested to him that — as the son of a senator and a Yale Law

School graduate — his background was the same as Mr Bush's. He smilingly replied that this only went to prove that he was no populist. As befits his miraculous past, Mr Robertson had an answer to everything.

Mr Dole is at the moment a little reminiscent of our own Mr Norman Tebbit — a dark-jewelled creator of havoc who then stands back in all innocence. Emerging from his room in the Merrimack Hilton yesterday morning, having clearly gloated over the *Boston Globe*, Mr Dole was asked whether the poll was the result of the harsh attacks on Mr Bush. "What have I said?" he replied.

Robertson interview, page 6
Simon's struggle, page 6

Experts press King's Cross arson theory

By Tony Dawe

The theory that an arsonist caused the King's Cross Underground fire is being unfairly dismissed at the public inquiry into the disaster, according to some of the lawyers and experts taking part.

As the inquiry into the fire, in which 31 people died, enters its third week today, tensions are mounting among the participants about the rejection of the arson

theory before evidence about it has even been heard.

Dismay has been voiced privately to Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, chairman of the inquiry, and may have led him to a surprise decision last week to give lawyers concerned about possible arson more time to prepare their cases.

One of the interested parties told *The Times*: "It really is outrageous that the evidence of some witnesses is being dismissed before they are even called and the evidence of others is being ignored."

entered the lower machine room at about 7.35 pm.

The inquiry has heard that Mr Hayes was not wearing blue overalls but a dark grey London Underground suit and has not been identified by Mr Lane. He was taken to the Lloyds Bank training centre at Hindhead, Surrey, to be seen by Mr Lane, who is a bank clerk, but Mr Lane did not recognize him.

The second incident witnessed by many passengers at King's Cross that night was a minor fire at the foot of the Victoria Line escalators which are next to the Piccadilly Line escalators. The object on fire was described variously as a paper tissue and an oily rag, and was extinguished by a member of the Underground staff.

Reports by independent fire experts submitted to the inquiry have said that tissue paper "does not burst into flame spontaneously", and that a repeat performance on the Piccadilly Line escalator could not be ruled out.

But when the inquiry considered this fire on February 5, none of the witnesses were called and only brief statements were read to the court. Mr Henderson dismissed the evidence as irrelevant, but Mr Fennell said that anybody who wanted to make representations about the importance of the Victoria Line fire could do so when the inquiry resumed on the following Monday.

The *Times* understands that Mr Fennell was told of some dismay at this peremptory judgment and the little time given to prepare a challenge to it.

At the start of last Monday's hearing, Mr Fennell said that lawyers might not have had time to take instructions over the weekend and he would allow them to return to the subject at a later stage.

Some of the experts who want the arson theory to be considered more deeply believe that the likely cause of the fire given so far is too convenient: that a passenger travelling on the escalator dropped a lit match.

New air disaster warning system

By Harvey Elliott
Air correspondent

A computerized warning system, which could prevent potential mid-air collisions similar to the near disaster over Kent, is to be installed at the air traffic control centre, West Drayton, near Heathrow.

The device, known as Conflict Alert, will automatically track all flights being handled by air traffic controllers, recording impulses from aircraft radio altimeters and flashing an emergency warning on controllers' radar screens if any appear to be in danger.

The software system has been available within the main computer at West Drayton for years but until now it has been thought to be too complicated and expensive to put into operation.

The air miss on February 6 involving a British Airways Tri-star and a Bulgarian charter jet has led to the project being brought forward. Engineers have told the Civil Aviation Authority the system should be operating by the end of the year.

It is one of several proposed changes, after air traffic controllers stepped up pressure on the CAA to improve working conditions.

The controllers fear that two of their members who were suspended after the Tri-star incident could be disciplined. While they accept that the controllers many need re-training, mainly to restore their confidence, they are determined that the CAA should shoulder the main blame for the incident.

Delegates representing nearly all CAA controllers passed a motion of no-confidence in Mr Keith Mack, controller of the national air traffic system at the CAA, at a meeting at Stockport yesterday.

They recommended also that more military airspace should be made available for civilian aircraft, and that a training simulator should be installed at West Drayton. An independent system of investigating potentially dangerous incidents should also be set up.

The controllers, members of the Institute of Professional Civil Servants, claim there will be an extra 200 flights daily, an increase of 11 per cent at Heathrow and 15 per cent at Gatwick, into London this summer.

The CAA said yesterday it had confidence in Mr Mack. Continued on page 20, col 1



Supporters at Mr Andrew Tinney's American-style chairmanship campaign reception during the Young Conservatives' conference at Eastbourne. (Photograph: Peter Whyte).

Thatcher seeks halt to Young Tories feud

By Nicholas Wood
and Sheila Gunn

The Prime Minister has intervened in the bitter feud between left and right for control of the Young Conservatives.

She has asked Mr John Whittingdale, her political secretary, to find out what lies behind the acrimonious power struggle that overshadowed the 20,000-member youth movement's weekend conference at Eastbourne.

The dispute, which includes accusations of gerrymandering, militant-style tactics and secret funds, centres on a determined push by the right, some of whom have close links with libertarian extremists, to overthrow 30 years of centre left control of the Young Conservatives.

Over the weekend, Mr Whittingdale held behind-the-scenes talks with the leaders of the two rival camps.

Mr Whittingdale appeared in the Sussex seaside resort on Saturday night and tracked down Mr Andrew Tinney, the right-wing candidate for the chairmanship of the YCs, at a discotheque reception held for his supporters.

Accompanied by Mr John O'Sullivan, a member of the Downing Street policy unit, he spoke briefly to the 23-year-old trainee accountant at the entrance to the Pier Theatre.

But further conversation was impossible because of the thump of the music and a gale Continued on page 20, col 3

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● Portfolio Accumulator begins its third week with £48,000 to be won. And of course there is today's £4,000 daily prize to be won as well.

● Winners, page 3

TOMORROW

Lessons for life

● The 100 questions every school leaver should be able to answer and the books all children should read are included in a major series, which also hears views from across the education divide.

Paper prices
The Times and *The Daily Telegraph* go up in price to 30p today. *The Independent* has announced that it will rise to 30p next Monday.

IN PART 2

Steroid horse
The discovery of an anabolic steroid in the steeplechaser Cavies Clown has mystified the horse-racing world. Page 38

Degree passes
Degrees awarded by the universities of London and Buckingham. Page 32

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★★★★★

Drugs inquiry at Crufts

By Ruth Gledhill

Crufts Dog Show was at the centre of a doping investigation yesterday after it emerged that one dog had collapsed in the show ring and another was found apparently drugged shortly after winning its class on Saturday.

At least two and possibly three dogs are believed to have been drugged with tranquil-

isers at the show by jealous rivals.

Mr Trevor Turner, a veterinary surgeon, reported that after the first dog collapsed, another started showing signs of drowsiness after winning its "best of class". It was immediately treated by Mr Turner, and went on to win its "best of breed".

The drug used is believed to

be acepromazine, a prescription-only tranquilizer, but one that is easily available to most pet owners.

The tranquilizer, in the form of yellow tablets, was administered to the dogs in liver placed on the bench. As soon as the dogs returned from the show ring to the bench they ate the meat.

Continued on page 20, col 5

Chequers meeting heals Church rift

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

The frosty relationship between the Government and the Church of England has thawed after a confidential meeting of the Prime Minister and eight senior bishops.

Leading churchmen were talking yesterday of a mood of reconciliation and a "new chapter" in the church's attitude towards the Government.

Mrs Thatcher told the bishops she wanted a new emphasis on personal morality. Yesterday the Rt Rev Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, said: "I think it is fair to say that the time is right for a renewal of emphasis on personal values, as well as political values. I think that is absolutely right."

One of Mrs Thatcher's most outspoken critics, the Rt Rev David Jenkins, Bishop of Durham, said he viewed the meeting and subsequent events with "modified rapture". It was "splendid" that a dialogue had been started. There was, however, still a long way to go.

The first details about the meeting with the bishops, which was at Chequers in November, emerged yesterday on the BBC Radio Four *Sunday* programme.

The bishops who attended it had agreed to treat the conversation as confidential, and bishops who were not present were apparently still

Ferry dispute is over

By Tim Jones

The seven-week dispute which halted ferry sailings from the Isle of Man and led to the National Union of Seamen being fined £7,500 for failing immediately to call off the "sympathy" national ferry strike ended yesterday.

Seamen at Liverpool and Douglas endorsed a com-

promise agreement, achieved after two days of talks with the conciliation service Acas, which will reduce from 71 to 43 the redundancies sought by the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company.

At Dover, however, 1,500 members of the union decided to continue their stoppage

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Blue pencil erases Dr Dolittle's black humour

By Andrew Billen

The Story of Dr Dolittle, a children's classic for 66 years, is to be republished in a bowdlerized edition that excises its racist content.

Cape and the late Hugh Lofting's American publishers, Dell, have bowed to political pressure and falling sales and persuaded his son to permit a re-editing of the 12 Dolittle stories.

Fans of the tales of the eccentric doctor who learns to talk to animals will notice that Prince Dumbo is missing from the new version of the introductory book. He is a black African boy who wants to be white.

According to Mr George Nicholson, vice-president of Dell, Lofting never intended a racist portrayal. "The

character is obviously a fool, one of literature's enduring archetypes. But most people lose their sense of humour when they read that chapter," he said. He admitted that although Lofting was a liberal, his drawings of Africans with bones through their noses stirring stew pots were now unacceptable.

The doctor has been in trouble in America since the early 1970s, when the Campaign for Interracial Books for Children won the removal of the books from the approved purchase list for schools and libraries.

Sales have also fallen in Britain as education authorities stopped buying. *Dr Dolittle's Circus*, one of the few stories still in paperback, sold a meagre 1,500 copies in Puffin last year.

Until 1998 the copyright remains with Mr Christopher Lofting, the author's son, by his third marriage. Although he has helped to edit the new versions of the stories read to him as a child, he calls the anti-Dolittle lobbyists gun-slingers.

"I think my father would have been astonished and outraged at some of the accusations they levelled at him," he said from his home in New York.

"These new versions come after a lot of soul-searching. Over the years there has been a feeling that publishers should not be in the business of censorship. You don't lightly tamper with a classic."

Miss Valerie Kettle, Cape's children's books director, is excited at being able to promote the new editions with a clear conscience.

But Puffin Books are not committing themselves to re-issuing titles in their new form, although an introductory collection is likely to remain.

Mrs Liz Attenborough, Puffin's editorial director, who has in the past run a blue pencil through Walter de la Mare and Kipling, has not been altogether sorry to see the passing of some of the Dolittle books.

"If you go to an inner-city school with lots of other black kids, how can you be expected to know authors wrote from a different perspective 50 years ago?" she said.

Mr Nicholson said that the editors had also removed a few references to "niggers" and heightened the comic aspect of the books.

Leading article, page 13

NEWS ROUNDUP

Teacher backed in GCSE protest

Parents of children at an English school who want them to take the Scottish O-grade history examination rather than GCSE are fighting moves to discipline a teacher.

The teacher, Mr Chris McGovern, head of history at Lewes Priory School in East Sussex, had told the parents he feared the GCSE was "virtually unteachable".

Mr McGovern, aged 37, could be dismissed after disobeying his headteacher's and chief education officer's orders by airing his concerns about the examination. He has not refused to teach the examination. He and his three colleagues in the history department are preparing 30 pupils for the Scottish O-grade in hired rooms after school. Most pupils will take both.

At a governors' meeting this month Dr Tony Agathangelou, a lecturer in occupational psychology at London University, will lead a parents' call for the disciplinary action against Mr McGovern to be dropped.

Murder charge

Georgina Wynne Stuart, aged 50, of Orchard Way, Harwell, Oxfordshire, is to appear in court at Didcot, Oxfordshire, today charged with murdering Dr Colin Fisher, a nuclear scientist.

Dr Fisher's body was found at Mrs Stuart's home last Thursday morning.

Dr Fisher, who lived with his wife Janet and two children at Leamington Drive, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, was considered a leading expert in the field of nuclear particle physics. He worked at the Rutherford laboratories at Culham, near Harwell.

Sub scare denied

The Ministry of Defence yesterday denied that an electrical fault in a Polar nuclear submarine at the Faslane base, Strathclyde, could have caused a serious radiation leak.

It said the fault, on HMS Resolution, was the sort of minor malfunction that occasionally occurred, and there were many safety back-ups built into the system. Had there been a serious risk of radiation escaping the Clyde emergency procedure would have been enacted.

HMS Resolution is believed to be back on patrol.

Climber dies in crash

A woman died and 10 people were injured yesterday when a bus carrying skiers ran into the back of a stationary bus four miles north of Tyndrum in Strathclyde.

The bus with 30 skiers from the Edinburgh area skidded on black ice at the hamlet of Auch and hit climbers as they collected equipment from the boot of their bus.

The woman who died was Miss Elizabeth Stenhouse, aged 54, of Lawrie Road, Dundee, the secretary of the Grampian Mountaineering Club.

Mr Norman Stirling, aged 53, of Duntroon Terrace, Broughty Ferry, the club's treasurer, and Miss Dorothy Wilson, aged 49, of Fossil Way, Crook of Devon, near Kinross, were seriously injured.

More in cells

The number of prisoners being held in police cells has increased by three hundred in a week to reach 985. A further 48,698 are in prisons in England and Wales.

The increase in the police cell population is partly due to industrial action over manning levels in Wandsworth and Wormwood Scrubs prisons.

Officers involved are refusing admissions until the population is down to the "certified" normal accommodation, which for the whole of England and Wales is 42,390.

Pembroke to marry

Lord Pembroke, once described by Barbara Cartland as "the only man who fits my image of an aristocratic Adonis", is to marry again.

The Earl, aged 49, who is to marry Miss Miranda Oram, gained a certain notoriety as a film director when he set the soft pornography film *Emily* in his ancestral home.

He also became a target for Sinn Féin activists in the late 1960s when hundreds of republican anglers poached his salmon.

Court and Social, page 14

£50 jobs incentive

Clothing companies in the Nottingham area are so desperate to recruit workers for hundreds of vacancies that £50 rewards are being offered by one company to its staff for every suitable candidate they can bring in.

Despite more than 30,000 unemployed in the area, company managers cannot fill machinists' jobs paying more than £200 a week or find recruits to be trained for further vacancies such as cutters or machine mechanics.

'Coach' Kinnock's warning to team

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, yesterday warned his critics inside the party that they would be permanently sidelined if they persisted in questioning his leadership.

The toughest threat yet in Labour's running internal squabble came after two of his chief protagonists, Mr Tony Benn and Mr Ken Livingstone, had intensified their attacks on his role.

Mr Benn, who may be drafted by the left wing of his party to a leadership contest, accused Mr Kinnock on Saturday of abandoning the party's "historic mission to transform society". Mr Livingstone spoke last week of "devastating civil war" over the leadership's new statement of aims and values.

Mr Kinnock's warning was directed principally at factions such as the hard left Campaign Group.

His statement suggests that

next time someone acts in the way Mr John Prescott, the energy spokesman, did over a deputy leadership challenge, Mr Kinnock may take the advice of some of his senior colleagues and sack him.

Mr Kinnock said: "I am in the situation of a captain or a coach of a team who says to his players, 'We have got an important game and we have got a really tough season ahead. I don't want anybody on Friday night going out on the pop.'"

"If you do and you are not fully fit tomorrow morning when the whistle goes, then don't look for your name on the team sheet next week."

Speaking in a BBC interview, Mr Kinnock condemned the "squawking" of the Campaign Group.

He conceded there was a certain attraction to taking on Mr Benn and beating him, but reiterated his view that such a contest would be bad for the party.

Haughey in showdown on 'shoot-to-kill' affair

By John Cooney

When Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, addresses the Commons this week, his statement will contain a special message for the 166 members of the Irish Dail.

For in spite of the frosty outcome of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's thirty-minute meeting with Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish premier, at the EEC summit in Brussels last Friday, she and Mr King are acutely aware of the importance of keeping Mr Haughey as an ally.

On the same day, Mr Haughey faces his own showdown over the "shoot-to-kill" affair when his critics speak in an emergency debate in the Dail. He will also have to deal with members of his party who disagree with his co-operative cross-border policies at the annual meeting of Fianna Fail next weekend.

There has been talk in Dublin of

an election ever since Mr Haughey suffered two defeats on education and social welfare cuts last year. Indeed, he avoided a humiliating ousting on Christmas Eve only after accepting opposition amendments to extradition safeguards for Irish citizens wanted in Britain or Ulster.

His party's standing has risen in opinion polls because of his tough economic policies, but there is little doubt he has a big problem in reconciling his need to be tough with Britain and his wish to keep the Anglo-Irish accord alive.

According to British officials, there has been a remarkable shift in hostility in respect of Mrs Thatcher's attitude to Mr Haughey in the past six months.

At the photograph call for EEC leaders in Brussels last June, Mrs Thatcher did not conceal her distaste at being pictured with Mr Haughey. Her correspondence with

him early last year carried stiff, formal signatures. The coldness reflected Mrs Thatcher's long and unforgiving memory of Mr Haughey's refusal to support EEC sanctions against Argentina after the sinking of the General Belgrano.

The turning point was the Enniskillen bombing on Remembrance Day Sunday. Mr Haughey immediately sent a note condemning the outrage and assuring Mrs Thatcher of his readiness to take decisive action against the IRA.

After Enniskillen, Mr Haughey became "Charles" in private communications from Mrs Thatcher. Even criticism by the Prime Minister in the Commons of Mr Haughey's proposed extradition safeguards did not undo the rapport.

The two had a constructive meeting at the EEC summit in Copenhagen. Some diplomats suggest Mrs

Thatcher's extradition broadside was aimed at helping Mr Haughey, as it convinced troublesome Fianna Fail backbenchers to support a measure she was opposed to.

Mr Haughey has not balked, as did his predecessor, Dr Garret FitzGerald, at introducing the European convention on the suppression of terrorism and of clamping down on IRA activities in the republic.

Since taking charge last March, Mr Haughey has shifted his position on economics and security much closer to Mrs Thatcher, departing from his traditional economic laxity and anti-British republicanism.

The recent budget was another belt-tightening exercise which, while necessary, has not helped heal wounds with old allies, or buried the accusation that he has taken his economic lead from London.

Mr Haughey and his ministers calculate that they can stay in office

at least until the autumn, and perhaps until even spring next year, if they can wring enough concessions from the British to show that they are holding their own.

Mr Haughey is confident that the possibility of an immediate election will recede because the opposition parties are not united and because any sign of political instability would undermine progress made in the past 11 months in bringing order to Ireland's chaotic finances.

A third factor is that Mr Alan Dukes, of Fine Gael, the main opposition leader, needs more time to establish his authority and to reorganize the party.

Mr Haughey faces the fundamental choice of whether to hold on until he is defeated in circumstances where he is forced to fight an election, or to call an early election to secure the overall majority which he has failed to obtain.

Thatcher plan for a market in the NHS is 'too simplistic'

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The Government should launch an experimental scheme to test whether health service efficiency would be improved by an "internal market" strategy of competition, a report published today suggests.

The strategy, in which individual hospitals and health districts would be able to buy and sell their services to and from each other, is strongly favoured by the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Social Services, Mr John Moore.

They are believed to be considering such a pilot project, which would allow an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the approach.

The new report, *Inefficiency and the NHS*, from the Institute of Economic Affairs Health Unit, criticizes "simplistic" political calls for greater competition. Those could lead to more unequal access to health care for some patients, it says.

The report, by Mr Ray Robinson, a health policy analyst at the King's Fund Institute, says that an internal market system could jeopardize some sections of the community, such as the elderly, lower-paid and disabled.

It would be opposed by large and powerful sections of the medical profession, from general practitioners to hos-

pital consultants, and would face serious practical problems.

He says: "There are undoubtedly sources of inefficiency within the NHS and the introduction of increased competition between health districts offers one potential means of reducing some of them. But the situation is far more complex than many of the simplistic calls for more competition imply."

Some districts already treat some patients from other districts, but these arrangements can generate inefficiencies, such as unnecessarily long waiting times, and provide no incentives to overcoming them, the report argues.

The present system contains "perverse incentives" against improving efficiency. For example, Mr Robinson says, the length of a consultant's waiting list may determine the demand for his services from private patients, thereby enhancing his earnings.

The internal market proposal, like much of the privatization debate, has assumed that competition is a "good thing" without examining how exactly efficiency would be enhanced in particular circumstances, he says.

"There has been a tendency to assume that efficiency is the only objective that the NHS should pursue. Other important objectives, such as

universality and equality of access have sometimes been relegated to a subsidiary position, if they have been considered at all."

An internal market would take the power of decision-making about treatment even further away from patients. "It would be district general managers who would make block decisions about where patients should be treated", Mr Robinson says.

"This would represent a considerable restriction of the GP's existing freedom of referral."

The role of the managers is already "severely circumscribed" by the decisions of hospital consultants, he adds. "It is not clear how exactly competition between districts would spur consultants to work more efficiently."

Doctors have a monopoly position within the health service which an internal market would find difficult to erode, he says.

Another argument against the internal market is that some patients will have to travel longer distances for treatment, penalizing low-income and less mobile individuals and their families, he says.

Efficiency and the NHS: A Case for Internal Markets? IEA Health Unit, 2 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LB (£4.50).

Hole-in-heart boy Matthew is dead

Matthew Collier died in Birmingham Children's Hospital yesterday, four weeks after heart surgery that had been postponed three times.

Doctors said the delay in Matthew's operation was not linked to his death.

Matthew, aged four, who had a hole-in-the-heart condition, died yesterday morning with his parents, Mr Barry Collier and his wife Patricia, from Willenhall, Wolverhampton, at his bedside in the hospital's intensive care unit.

They had always said that the three postponements of their son's operation, as a result of a shortage of intensive care nurses at the hospital, had left him too weak to cope with the surgery he was to undergo, and they went to the High Court to try to force the hospital to operate.

Yesterday, Dr Joseph De Giovanni, his consultant cardiologist, explained that Matthew died from brain damage caused by a blood infection. His 10-hour heart operation had been technically satisfactory.

Mr Charles Collier, Matthew's uncle, said last night that he believed the delay in the operation had contributed to his nephew's death. "If doctors said that Matthew needed an operation in September then he needed it then and not in January. I saw him every day. You could tell he was deteriorating."

Mr Collier, from Willenhall,

said Matthew's parents had been confident their son was getting better and was about to be transferred to an ordinary ward.

They had been told that Matthew might be brain-damaged, but he said: "That came as a shock, but they were prepared to love Matthew and look after him, whatever his condition might be. They never expected this."

Mr Collier said that Matthew's parents rushed to the hospital only half an hour before their son died after being told he was deteriorating. They arrived just as he died.

Mr David Winnick, the Labour MP for Walsall North, who helped the family in their campaign, said: "I am deeply saddened. The whole country was hoping and praying that Matthew would win his fight for life."

Matthew's parents unsuccessfully sought an order in the High Court to force the children's hospital to carry out their son's operation.

There are now 111 children with heart defects on the hospital's waiting list but all six intensive care beds are in use and there is staffing for no more.

Last week, the hospital announced that no new emergency admissions would be allowed to the hospital, which is the West Midlands regional centre for cardiac surgery.

Attack on 'two-tier' system

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Labour yesterday seized on Mr John Moore's latest speech on health policy to argue that the Government is determined to create a two-tier service.

The Secretary of State for Social Services told the Young Conservatives' conference in Eastbourne that his vision of the health service was one in which patients should be "free from fear of money needed at the time of health need."

That was widely seen as signalling his intention to abandon universal free treatment.

Mr Robin Cook, Opposition health spokesman, said: "In the eyes of ministers the current study of the health service is not so much a review, more an autopsy."

"John Moore has given us a clear warning that left to themselves they will dismember the National Health Service. Mr Moore sees its role as providing a safety net for those who cannot afford to pay. This is a two-tier system with a vengeance."

Sources close to Mr Moore dismissed this interpretation as a travesty both of what he said and what he intended. His speech, made off the cuff, was aimed at underlining the Government's commitment to ensure that ability to pay would never be a factor in denying someone treatment.

Chess across the world



Gary Kasparov (left), the world chess champion, making a move in Cannes, southern France, yesterday during one of the games he is playing simultaneously against 10 young people around the world, including Michael Adams, aged 16 (right), from Truro, Cornwall, who was taking part in the event from London (London photograph: Peter Trievnor).

EEC farm agreement

Thatcher 'must justify deal'

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Mrs Thatcher can expect a rough ride from MPs when she makes a Commons statement today on the outcome of the patchwork deal on farm subsidies worked out at the European summit in Brussels.

The agreement falls far short of the Prime Minister's declared minimum requirements and has come under fire from Labour, and from some Conservative backbenchers.

She has been accused of "acting with a whimper" after her earlier "bluster". In particular, she is said to have been outfoxed by the French and the West German leaders — who are both facing elections.

British officials said the terms of the settlement package to curb farm spending were "extremely complicated". However, Mrs Thatcher will today reject allegations that her concessions mean agriculture spending will continue un-

checked, with food surpluses piling up much as before.

It was claimed that her critics may change their view when details of the deal become more available.

Farmers' leaders reacted to the weekend Brussels EEC budget settlement with a mixture of resentment and resignation. The former stems from a long-held, if not entirely justified, belief that they are being made to pay the price of supporting "inefficient" small farmers in the rest of Europe.

The resignation is because they knew from the start that something had to be seen to be done to curb spending. It will also be some months before the effects of the complex mechanism aimed at reducing cereal surpluses are felt.

Farmers' more immediate concerns are to see a devaluation of the green pound, which would assist Britain's hard-pressed pig producers in

particular, and help to ensure changes in subsidy arrangements would not damage other livestock sectors.

Mr Simon Gourlay, president of the National Farmers' Union, said the deal was "quite a tough package", but added that he did not think the introduction of automatic price cuts after EEC cereal production reached 160,000 tonnes would solve the long term problems.

Mr Gourlay welcomed the acceptance of "set-aside" as a means of taking land out of production, but suggested that the proposals in their present form would be ineffective.

His union was particularly concerned that the measures to reduce production of oil-seed rape were too severe, and would tempt growers back into grain when oilseed and protein crops were one sector in which the community was still in deficit.

Summit round-up, page 7

Beef prices may go up by 10p a lb

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Beef prices are likely to rise by up to 10p a pound in the coming months as the effects of lower output and higher market prices for cattle find their way into the shops.

Production in the United Kingdom is expected to fall by 4.5 per cent this year and a further 5 per cent next year, according to the Meat and Livestock Commission. That is because further cuts in EEC milk quotas have forced farmers to reduce their dairy herds, on which the beef industry largely depends.

The "knock-on" effects of quotas have been far more serious than was generally predicted. Market prices for calves have soared by nearly 60 per cent in the past year to an average of £147 a head.

With dealers throughout Europe competing for supplies, British calf exports are likely to rise to around 450,000 head this year compared with just over 200,000 in 1986, putting further pressure on domestic prices.

Quota restrictions will mean that dairy farmers will

look for further ways of increasing efficiency including, if the Government gives its approval, the use of bovine somatotropin (BST), a hormone product which can raise yields by 20 per cent or more. Fewer cows will mean even fewer calves.

In the longer term the Government's Agricultural Development and Advisory Service expects a move back to traditional suckler herds, and perhaps a return to established British breeds such as Hereford.

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FLY THE MAGIC HORSE

Motor industry disputes
Hard-left test for direct negotiation

By Tim Jones

Hard-left activists at motor plants are planning to increase their power base by depriving nationally elected union officials of their right to negotiate directly with management.

The strategy was hammered out by motor industry delegates at the Militant-dominated Broad Left Organizing Committee in Sheffield at the weekend after Mr Tony Benn, MP for Chesterfield, criticized Mr Neil Kinnock for pushing the Labour Party to the right.

The delegates, from Ford, Jaguar, Rover and Land Rover want the full membership to be represented at plant-

level negotiations on pay and conditions. The strategy comes after the rejection by Ford workers of a three-year agreement which had been recommended to them by their negotiating team.

One delegate at the meeting said: "We want to be sure the leaders know where their roots are. A lot of people have a tendency to forget where they came from."

Union leaders representing 3,700 workers at Vauxhall's Luton and Dunstable plants will announce today the result of a strike-action ballot on whether to reject the company's pay offer of be-

tween £16 and £25 a week for the next two years.

In return, the company wants more flexibility and an end to traditional demarcation, although the proposals are not as radical as those sought by Ford.

Union leaders from Land Rover will also meet today to determine whether to sanction industrial action after the rejection of a two-year, 14 per cent deal by 6,000 workers at the company.

The union leaders have been warned by Mr Tony Gilroy, managing director of the company, that there will be no improvement on the

offer, whatever the decision.

Mr Bill Jordan, president of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, said yesterday that his members at Ford would be given strike pay until the dispute ends. The Transport and General Workers' Union, the biggest union at the company, has set aside £5 million to support striking workers for at least 12 weeks.

Some junior panels already exist and members were represented at a private conference with government officials in the autumn.

Campaign to reduce crime by young people

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government is to encourage the faster spread of junior crime prevention panels.

The peak offending age is 15 and about a third of males have been convicted for crimes more serious than a minor motoring offence by the age of 28.

Ministers are worried that once sentenced to custody young people tend to learn as much, if not more, about committing crime as avoiding it.

Some junior panels already exist and members were represented at a private conference with government officials in the autumn.

The idea being fostered is for closer co-operation between police, schools and others in the community in a revitalized campaign against crime among the young.

While there would be an element of the neighbourhood watch about the panels, with members looking out for crime, they would also help educate young people against crime.

The ministerial group on crime prevention is looking at the role of schools in trying to stop crime.

Money from the Education Support Grant has been supporting a number of pilot studies.

Call for university vice-chancellors to adopt union tactics

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

University vice-chancellors and college principals may turn themselves into a high-profile, trade-union style group in response to criticism that their committee has been "neither able nor willing to act as torch bearer for the universities".

Yesterday, Mr Robert Jackson, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Education, said that the vice-chancellors should "get their political act together and develop their capability to contribute to the debate about public policy in higher education in a more effective way".

Miss Diana Warwick, the university teachers' union general secretary, said the vice-chancellors and principals' committee should be either replaced or overshadowed by "a more open and representative body" in the form of a universities council.

A report by Lord Flowers on reorganizing the committee of vice-chancellors is being considered this week in Perth, Western Australia, where most university chiefs are spending time at the fourth Commonwealth Universities Congress.

Mr Jackson was scathing about the vice-chancellors' absence from Britain at a time when vital changes in the Education Reform Bill are to be discussed in the Bill's

committee stage and the Government is poised to make some significant concessions on academics' rights of appeal in the case of dismissal, and to "constrain" the sweeping powers being given to Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education and Science.

On Tuesday Mr Baker is to announce that the Bill is being changed so that, for the first time, dismissed academics have a right of appeal beyond their university Visitor — the highest available authority at present — to the courts.

Ministers argue that such a change is more useful for academics than the inclusion of a commitment to academic freedom in the Bill, which will disappoint academics who are expecting such a commitment as a protection to some degree against the abolition of academic tenure.

Mr Jackson said yesterday: "If the vice-chancellors really seriously believe some of the things they are saying about the effect of the Bill on their universities, it is extraordinary that they should be out of the country at this time."

Under the Flowers plan, the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals' chairman would be on leave of absence from his university for his term of office. Backed by an upgraded secretary general, he would be in a better

position to act as a professional lobbyist.

Miss Warwick wants the reshaping to go further. She urges the committee to seek to take over the Government's powers of negotiating with staff, and for the setting up of a "more open and representative body".

The committee, she says, should be commissioning research, as do trade unions and pressure groups, to underpin its arguments.

Another report to be published this week by the University Grants Committee estimates that 5,000 university academic posts must go by 1991, many involving the most experienced and senior academics.

Mr Jackson said this was a "very speculative" estimate but the figures are based on predictions made by the University Grants Committee's financial adviser, Mr Roger McClure.

The job losses will be caused by "restructuring", including a reduction in the number of departments in many subjects and the creation of fewer, but larger departments, for which Mr Baker has allowed £153 million over the next three years.

Universities will have to bid for the cash, and the University Grants Committee is to consider case by case which institutions it believes should have special assistance.

Violence on television

BBC will increase warnings

Richard Evans, Media Editor

Warnings to viewers about television programmes containing violent scenes are to be increased by the BBC, Mr Michael Checkland, the corporation's director general, says.

Programme schedulers will also be more careful about what is broadcast after the 9pm "watershed" hour on Fridays, Saturdays, and during school holidays when parents allow children to stay up late to watch television.

Mr Checkland has identified three areas for particular care when it comes to dealing with violence on television:

● Clear labelling of programmes so audiences know what to expect and parents can guide children's viewing.

● The problem of an increasing number of American films and series which include "inappropriately graphic and realistic violence" in otherwise light-hearted programmes.

● The need in news and factual programmes to strike a balance between showing the harrowing reality of some events, and the risk of desensitizing the audience "by

More than 200 striking technicians at TV-am will hear today that they must return to their posts or be dismissed.

The board of directors decided last Wednesday that unless the strikers returned to work they would have to go.

The decision was taken after members of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians at the breakfast television station rejected management terms for a return to work.

TV-am management has produced its own programmes

showing too much, too often."

Mr Checkland's views are contained in *Violence and the Media*, a BBC booklet published today which contains papers presented by leading academics, broadcasters and critics to a one-day seminar on television violence organized by the BBC in December.

Mr Checkland says: "I continue to believe the watershed is a useful device, not as part of a policy of dividing the output between 'sanitized' and 'adult' fare, but as one of a

since the dispute started 10 weeks ago. The company has used recordings of programmes including *Batman* to help it through, saving more than £2 million in wages and increasing audience figures. Mr Bruce Gynell, the managing director, has arranged for technicians from the United States and Australia to replace the British workforce.

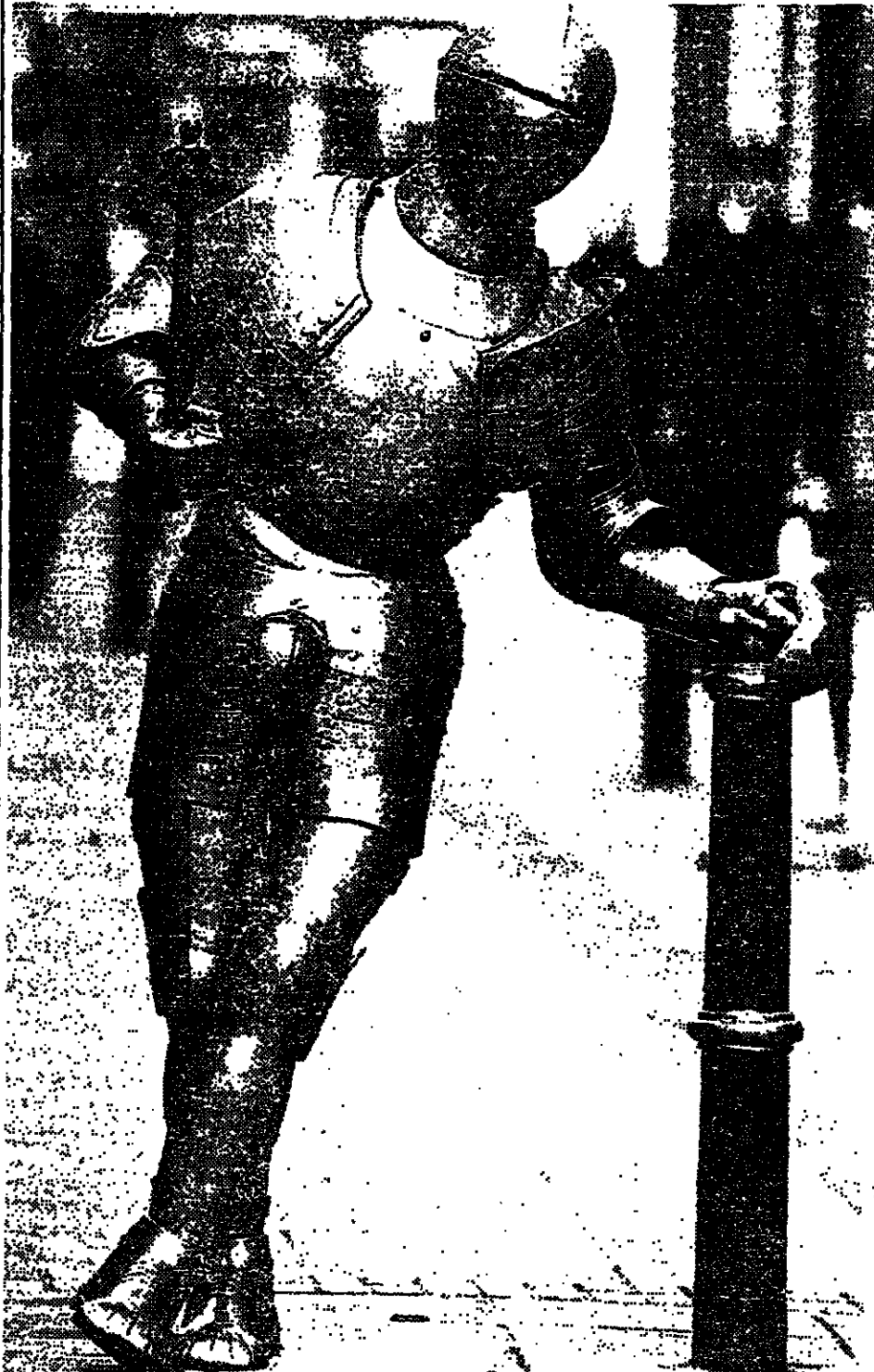
The company is eager to get back to normal conditions because of its expansion plans. It intends to open offices in Moscow and Peking.

number of mechanisms for labelling programmes and offering a guide to the viewer as he or she decides what to watch.

"We could perhaps do more with our ability to label and schedule. We know, for example, that families are more inclined to let children stay up late on Friday and Saturday evenings and during the holidays. Popular mid or late evening entertainment at those times must be suitable for younger viewers."

£5,000 for a hard-wearing suit

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent



Mr Andrew Jackson parading the Henry VIII replica steel suit of armour in South Molton Street, central London (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Mr Andrew Jackson, a security officer, started shoppers in South Molton Street, central London, when he appeared in a replica of a suit of armour once worn by Henry VIII.

Mr Jackson, who works with Phillips, the auctioneers, was promoting a sale of arms and armour on February 25. He was enlisted to model the armour on Friday because of the similarity of his proportions to those of the youthful king. Mr Jackson, like Henry, is about 6ft and of slim build.

The suit was made from steel in 1971 and weighs 78lb. It was created by Mr Terry English, who made the armour in the film *Excalibur*, for Mr Peter Prior. Mr Prior is deputy chairman of Holden Hydroman, a sub-aqua and freefall enthusiast, and author of a book on management called *Leadership is not a Bowler Hat*.

Mr English wanted to replicate the suit — used for foot combat in tournaments — to test its practicality and found that it covered the wearer entirely with articulated plates and gave perfect freedom of movement.

Mr Chris Allen, of Phillips, said: "Apart from the helmet which is slightly different in shape to the original, the only difference between them is the size of the codpiece. This one is bigger."

Otherwise, faithfulness to the original is scrupulously maintained. Phillips have had difficulties arriving at an estimate.

"As it's not antique and armour collectors might not want it", Mr Allen said. He compared it to another piece of armour made for Mr Prior: a nineteenth-century replica of a German grimacing helmet, which he is confident will go for between £3,000 and £5,000. His cautious estimate for the Henry VIII replica is up to £5,000.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

Treat for family of accountant

An accountant and a retired Civil Servant are the two winners sharing the weekly Portfolio Gold prize of £8,000.

Mr Thomas Hughes, aged 24, of Londonderry, Northern Ireland, is an accountant in Belfast. He has been playing Portfolio Gold for three years and plans to buy presents for his family with his £4,000 share.

Sharing the prize is Mr Levin Woolston, a retired Civil Servant, of Harley, Wiltshire. He will save the £4,000 until he decides how to spend it.



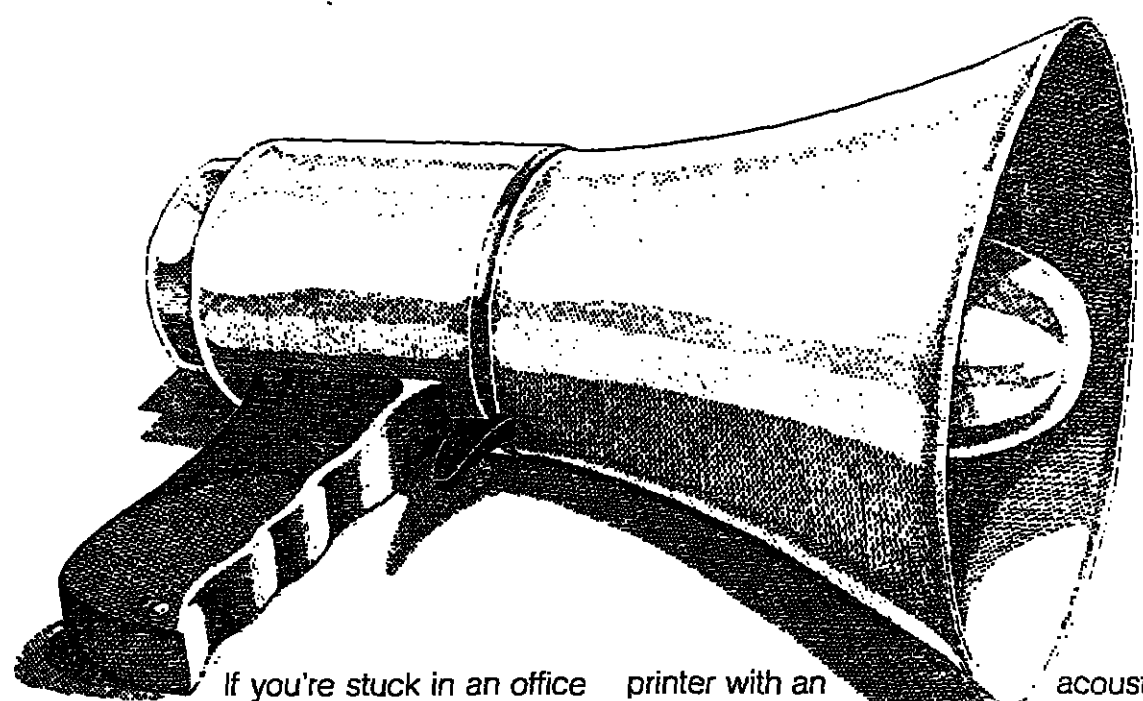
Mr Thomas Hughes.



Mr Levin Woolston.

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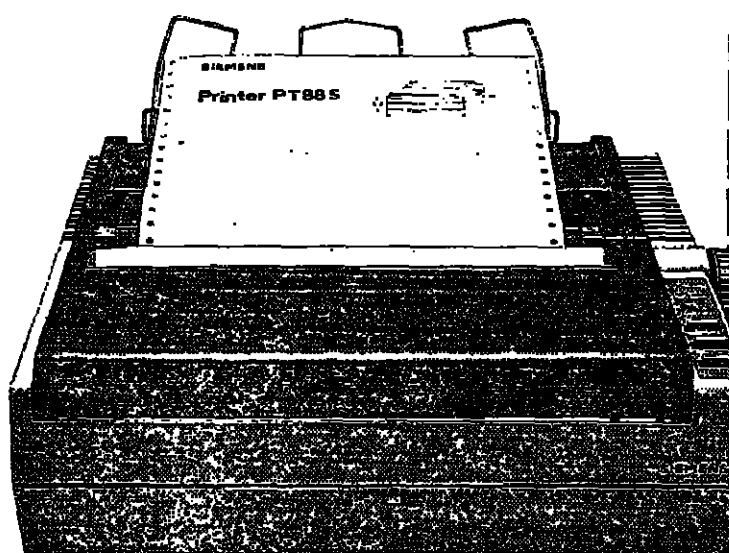
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Rover builds high-tech car to beat thieves

Austin Rover is understood to be developing for the Home Office a "theft proof" Rover 800 saloon protected by advanced electronic features.

It will serve as a showcase for design innovations in the Government's attempt to reduce vehicle crime, which accounts for more than a quarter of all offences.

The car will be unveiled in late November when the Home Office standing conference on crime, representing the police, industry, local councils and pressure groups, will consider how all vehicles can be made more secure.

Last week the Home Office set up a working group headed by Mr John Curtis, of the British National Insurance Company, to focus on the problem of the young opportunist car thief.

'Passive' smoking can harm unborn babies

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Evidence that unborn babies are at risk from their mothers inhaling other people's cigarette smoke may prompt tougher government anti-smoking campaigns.

The dangers to the foetus of smoking during pregnancy have been recognized for some years, with warnings on cigarette packets. The risks to adult non-smokers of "passive" smoking have also been well documented.

Researchers in the United States now believe that pregnant women are at more risk of having a low-birthweight baby, whose health is vulnerable in the first weeks of life, if members of the household smoke regularly.

An apparent increase in the incidence of sudden infant

death syndrome, cot deaths, in families where there are smokers has been identified.

Earlier studies have shown that young babies whose parents or relatives smoke have chemical traces in their bodies of the same level as adult occasional smokers.

A link has also been suggested between maternal smoking and genetic impairment of the foetus. Babies whose parents smoke are more likely to suffer from respiratory illnesses.

A review of the latest evidence is to be submitted to the Government. Mrs Edwina Currie, Under-Secretary of State for Health, said at the weekend that renewed warnings to mothers of the dangers of smoking were likely.

Animal happiness

Beating boredom in the zoo

By John Young

Most visitors to zoos must have thought how bored many of the animals look. That, it is now acknowledged, is because they are bored.

The Zoological Society of London and the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare have jointly decided to do something about bored zoo animals by appointing an entertainments officer to devise ways of keeping the inhabitants of London Zoo amused and stimulated. His actual title is Behavioural Enrichment Research Fellow, but it comes to the same thing.

Not all animals are creatures of routine. They like a bit of excitement and unpredictability in their lives and they do not like being washed and brushed as often as their keepers think they should be.

Above all, if they are naturally active, they want more ways of using up energy than

padding round their cages or swimming round their tanks. Watching the antics of their human visitors tends to pall; chimpanzees, for example, may become quite irritated by their uninvited guests and adopt novel ways of persuading them to leave.

Dr David Shepherdson, aged 29, who has been appointed to the new post, will be charged with "developing and assessing devices to enrich the animals' environment and to reduce abnormal behaviour associated with captivity".

Among the sort of projects to be looked at will be showers for pigs and apes which they can operate themselves; food dispensers for fish; switches to provide a range of diversions, mostly connected with the provision of food; and musical keyboards on which orangutans can practice.

The potential for allowing

animals in confinement to pursue their natural inclinations has already been demonstrated in a zoo in the United States, where a leopard was found to be capable of prodigiously high leaps. His daily rations are now placed on a 15 foot high ledge, to his own evident delight and the entertainment of spectators.

The federation said: "To give animals freedom to exercise their instincts and their intuitive powers not only increases their contentment but also adds to the enjoyment and appreciation of visitors".

Dr Shepherdson, who gained a PhD in ethology (animal behaviour) at Sussex University for his research into the behaviour of badgers in the wild, says there has so far been very little research into the problems suffered by animals in captivity.

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Arts Council takes culture campaign to developers

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The Arts Council is to launch a wide-ranging initiative this week designed to emphasize the part that the arts can play in inner-city regeneration by encouraging all sections of the community to be involved.

The council will take its campaign to architects, developers, and central and local government in an attempt to act as a catalyst for a variety of improvements and activities, including the design of office buildings and the provision of theatres or art galleries.

The initiative reflects a widening role for the Arts Council as it plays an increasingly active part in lobbying for the arts over the Local Government Bill and the copyright issue, in addition to its basic role of distributing money to arts bodies.

The council will not be putting its own money into the campaign, entitled "An Urban Renaissance". It hopes to harness the resources of the private sector to persuade developers to include an artistic or cultural ingredient in their inner-city schemes.

The council's argument is that redevelopment must consist of more than bricks and mortar to succeed. It believes that it must rebuild communities, and suggests that the arts can make a substantial contribution to the longer-term revitalization of depressed urban areas, helping to make them more attractive places to live in, and, for tourists, to visit.

The council has found in preparing to launch the initiative that property developers are beginning to realize the value of good design, attractive architecture and landscaping, and the use of art in public places.

Businessmen, too, increasingly recognize the role of the arts as a catalyst for redevelopment. A study in 1986 on Merseyside showed that every businessman interviewed emphasized the contribution of the arts in giving confidence to the region.

It can also point to cities such as Glasgow, where the regeneration has been to a great extent arts-led and where local businesses are capitalizing on its selection as European City of Culture for 1990; and Newcastle upon Tyne, where the arts centre has used retail development to finance workshops and studios.

The arts can also help to create jobs in tourism and other associated industries. In pursuing its initiative, the Arts Council wants to use its resources and expertise to assist developers and to serve as a clearing house for information on the arts in the urban areas.

It particularly wants to interest the new urban development corporations and other inner-city agencies and to enroll the support of central and local government to ensure that schemes involving the arts are pushed along.

'Patio Pete' gets away from the police



Off duty... Mr Peter Lambert, the man promoted to Metropolitan Police Commissioner six months ago, on a stroll in Richmond Park, west London, with his King Charles spaniel, Piri.

Mr Lambert, aged 54, who took over as chief of London's police from Sir Kenneth Newman, disclosed yesterday that his family nickname is "Patio Pete".

He said: "Everytime we've moved house - and we've had to do that a number of times - I've redesigned the garden and so never have I finished the patio than we've been moved again."

Mr Lambert spends his time "off duty" either riding horses or playing golf. However, because of a recent back injury he cannot pursue either at the moment.

He said: "I was going riding one morning and to save time, I put on my boots in the back of the car."

"I've seen two doctors, one said I shouldn't ride for a year and the other said three months, so I'll go back to the one that said three months to see if I can start riding again soon."

"Actually I'm not really a horse-

man, but I just love riding. I get on a horse about once a fortnight and we have a very gentle jog around. I like to ride the police horses from the Richmond Park stables - that's to keep the horses fit and me as well."

I asked Mr Lambert if he had always wanted to be a policeman and he said: "I once thought it might be nice to be a detective at New Scotland Yard but I also wanted to go on the stage."

"My hobby was conjuring, and I belonged to the International Brotherhood of Magicians. I did one or two police concerts in my youth at detec-

tive training schools and police colleges but I gave it up when my son started telling everyone how I did the tricks."

Mr Lambert and his wife Iris have three children, Simon, aged 29, Elaine, aged 27, and Sally, 21.

Mrs Lambert said: "I'm the safety valve in the family. I'm the one person Peter can explode at and it stays there. He's a family man really, he's an excellent father and spends as much time with the family as he can."

Photograph and story by Stephen Markeson

Summer time 'should be for good'

Sir David Nickson, president of the Confederation of British Industry, is campaigning for an end to Greenwich Mean Time hours.

Sir David says that when clocks go forward an hour on March 27 for British Summer Time that is where they should stay. British time should be synchronized with the rest of Europe to make business contacts easier, he says.

A recent survey of CBI members showed that most preferred to keep Greenwich Mean Time in the winter. But Sir David says that with the Channel tunnel due for completion in 1992 "it would be a very significant gesture on Britain's part to alter the clocks to European time".

Recruit drive

Kent County Council is recruiting 150 social workers in the wake of the death of James Reynolds, aged one, of Chatham, last year shortly after his social services department closed the file on his family. The boy had been sexually abused by his father.

Safety leap

Two people had to jump from windows and 16 others were rescued by firemen when fire swept through a block of flats in Lordship Road, Stoke Newington, north London, yesterday. The four-storey block was gutted.

Police loss

A traffic police officer from Basingstoke police station, Hampshire, who drove off in his patrol car, leaving his cap and a new police radio worth £450 on the roof, has been fined more than £200 by his superiors.

Sea rescue

Fifteen French seamen were rescued yesterday when their trawler hit the North Shoal Rock, 10 miles west of the Orkney islands. They were picked up from lifeboats by another trawler and a coast-guard helicopter.

Poet's station

The former railway station at Wadebridge, Cornwall, is being converted into a day centre for the elderly and a museum in memory of Sir John Betjeman.

Tax backfires

Bank customers returned 2,500 cash dispenser cards in one week after the Irish Government imposed a 15p tax on them.

Call to ease rules on self-employed

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Anyone should be allowed to adopt self-employed status, the Adam Smith Institute said today.

An easing of Inland Revenue policy towards the self-employed could create half a million jobs, the institute said. The taxmen are making it more difficult for people who want to start their own businesses, the institute says, in a paper timed to coincide with a private member's Bill.

More than 100,000 self-employed people have been re-classified in recent years as employees, sometimes retrospectively.

The switch has affected part-time examination markers, entertainers, taxi drivers, musicians, construction and agricultural workers, fruit pickers, models, actors, deep-sea divers, and freelance writers.

The Government has recognized the importance of self-employment with initiatives to encourage people to set up their own businesses, the institute says.

However, anyone planning to take on an employee has to comprehend more than 250,000 words of official rules.

The institute suggests starting the proposed new policy on self-employment with small firms with fewer than 20 workers, pointing out that this would allow greater flexibility and create more short-term and part-time jobs.

The paper also calls for the threshold at which value-

added-tax-registration is compulsory to be raised. It suggests a year's tax holiday for anyone coming out of the black economy into legitimate business.

The institute argues that the benefits of easier self-employment are obvious: "New initiatives and new enterprises; more jobs and more flexible jobs; more people at work; higher tax income and lower benefit payments".

Free to Work (Adam Smith Institute, PO Box 316, London SW1P 3DJ, £1)

Plans for the Government's new £1.5 billion adult training programme, which is intended to provide training for 600,000 people a year, are expected to be announced this week.

In an attempt to influence the proposals a rally and lobby of Parliament has been organized for this morning by a group called the Campaign for Work.

Twenty organizations which are highly critical of the proposals, already outlined by the Manpower Services Commission and accepted in principle by Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, are waiting to voice their concerns.

They say the proposals, which will bring training schemes as the Community Programme YTS and others, into a unified scheme, are "mean-minded and shortsighted".

Mrs Ingela Thalen, Sweden's Minister for Labour, is to address the rally and outline her country's training policies.

Labour politicians fear Mr Fowler intends withdrawing benefits from anyone refusing a training place.

Yard to adopt points system for crimes

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard is preparing to introduce a points system across London for assessing crimes so that police concentrate on cases they believe can be solved and more officers are released for street patrols.

It will mean that some less serious crimes such as burglary and car thefts will not be pursued unless there is enough initial evidence.

The system known as case screening has been on trial in areas of south London in the past year and senior officers

believe the results justify using it throughout the force this spring in spite of the controversy it may cause.

Arrests and clear-up rates in trial areas have risen while a survey has shown the public are satisfied with the change in spite of some crimes only receiving an initial investigation.

Uniform officers working in plainclothes to help CID have no longer been needed and have returned to street patrols.

Commander Alan Fry, who headed the trials and is training other senior officers, said the system was "a realistic

appreciation of what we can achieve from investigating crimes and putting scarce resources to the best use".

All serious crime, including murder, rape, serious assaults and racial attacks will be fully investigated.

Under the new system the police response will come initially from a uniformed officer. Instead of reporting the case back to CID or preparing details for a second uniform officer, he will be expected to gather as much information as possible including any description or details of a suspect, whether a potentially identifiable vehicle was

used and the possibility of forensic evidence. Mr Fry said this search for "solvable factors" represented an investigation in its own right.

The policeman reports to a crime desk at his station where details of the crime are considered on a points system based on what evidence or clues emerge.

A full description of a suspect gains five points while a partial description earns one. If the report produces fewer than three points the case will not be passed to CID. The victim is told by letter that no further action will be

taken on the evidence presently available. The letter also gives a contact point should new evidence emerge.

The system was first tried in the area round Carter Street in Lambeth, south London, where solved crimes rose from 11 per cent in 1986 to 13.5 per cent last year.

The number of arrests by uniform officers rose by 27 per cent and detectives more than doubled their arrests from 21 to 50. Two neighbouring areas in the same London borough with similar problems only managed clear-up rates of just over 10 per cent.

Kennel Club investigation

Spaniel puppies smuggled into Crufts

An exhibitor at Crufts faces investigation by the Kennel Club after breaking its regulations and taking two puppies to the show.

The man, from Southern Ireland, was reported to Kennel Club stewards at Earls Court after the two King Charles spaniels, said by their owner to be aged 10 weeks, were seen curled up in a basket.

Stewards took the puppies to Mr Trevor Turner, the duty veterinary surgeon at the show who examined them and estimated their age at between six and eight weeks.

"They were two poor, pathetic, terrified little puppies. People do not appreciate the stress of a show like this upon a dog."

"I understand from talking to the owner that he had purchased the puppies and brought them in because he was exhibiting something else."

The owner will be called before a hearing of the Kennel Club disciplinary committee where the owner could be fined or in the extreme, could be banned from all Kennel Club dog shows in the UK.

Mr Mark Hutchings, Crufts' chief steward said: "The man, the dog he intended to exhibit and the puppies were removed. The matter was looked into and will be investigated further."

Working dogs: Best of Group: Samoyed, Ch Zamoyaki Lucky Star of Ostyak, Mrs C A Fox, Drybrook, Glouce.

Best of Breed

Amelia, a black and tan dog, owned by Mrs. C. A. Fox, Drybrook, Glouce.

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Labour attacks forest tax loopholes for rich

Pop stars and sports personalities are making millions out of a "scandalous" tax loophole over forestry, a Labour treasury spokesman said yesterday. The party is poised to launch a campaign demanding that Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, should end the system in the Budget on March 15.

Mr Gordon Brown, Labour MP for Dunfermline East, said that the arrangements at present were transforming Britain's forests into tax havens that were among the biggest in Europe.

Mr Brown added: "A total of £35 million a year, £250 million since 1979 and £150 million more than the Government has ever admitted, is being given away in hand-outs to some of Britain's

best known top-rate tax payers, including pop groups, sports personalities and other public figures."

Mr Brown said that Labour would draw attention to environmental damage, not least in the Flow country of Scotland, caused by "the indiscriminate use of tax reliefs".

He said his party demanded action by the Chancellor against tax concessions which had been criticised by the National Audit Office, the Public Accounts Committee, and the Nature Conservancy Council and the Countryside Commission for Scotland and England.

Mr Brown said that the tax reliefs could mean a 70 per cent subsidy for forestry investment.

Motorway repairs

AA demands more road safety units

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Almost 40 per cent of local authorities do not employ safety experts to design low-cost improvements to dangerous roads although the Government estimates that they could save between 200 and 300 lives and 15,000 injuries each year.

The Automobile Association says 48 of the 124 local highway authorities have no accident investigation and prevention unit.

The motoring organization has written to Mr Peter Bottomley, Under-Secretary of State for Transport, criticizing the poor record of metropolitan boroughs, in particular, and calling for direct government funding for all units.

Mr Simon Dyer, AA director general, said yesterday: "Road accidents cost £3 billion a year, most of which is borne by the taxpayer in the form of hospital charges and payment victims."

"A relatively small investment would eventually mean substantial savings in crash costs and suffering."

Mr Bottomley supports the work of the units which, he believes, could contribute to his objective of cutting road

accidents by one third by the year 2000.

He said: "Accident investigation and prevention units are highly cost-effective and a proven way of saving lives. It does not necessarily involve extra expenditure, rather the steering of existing budgets in a particular direction."

One scheme, in St Albans, Hertfordshire, reduced injuries to one third by narrowing the pavement adjacent to a pelican crossing to improve the sighting of the lights. The work cost £12,000 and saved £70,000 in the first year.

Main roadworks until next Monday:

London and South-east

M1 London: Closure of hard shoulder and nearside lane southbound between jn 3 (Scratchwood services) and Mill Hill bridge.

M11 London: Inside lane closures southbound near Scratchwood services.

M11 Essex: Contraflow jns 8-10 (Bishop's Stortford/Dunford).

M25 Surrey: Lane restrictions, jns 11-13 (Chertsey/Staines).

A1 Bedfordshire: Single line working southbound with 30 mph speed limit. Serious peak hour congestion.

A1(M) Hertfordshire: Off-peak lane closures south of jn 7 (Corrills Mill).

Midlands

M5 West Midlands: Lane closures jns 1-2 (West Bromwich/Dudley).

M5 Hereford/Worcester: Contraflow jns 5-6 (Droitwich/Worcester North). Slip entry Northbound at jn 6 closed. Lane restrictions and carriageway closures jns 4-8 (Bromsgrove/M50).

North

M1 South Yorkshire: Lane closures jns 34-35 (Rotherham/Sheffield).

M6 Cheshire: Lane closures jns 16-18 (Kilgobbin/Middlewich).

M56 Greater Manchester: Resurfacing and contraflow jns 6-4 (M57/A5058).

M62 West Yorkshire: Contraflow jns 25-26 (Brighouse/M606 Bradford).

M63 Greater Manchester: Single line traffic jns 3-6. Long delays likely. Allow extra time for journeys to Manchester airport.

M63 Greater Manchester: Restrictions for widening of Barton Bridge. Serious peak hour congestion.

A1(M) South Yorkshire: Contraflow and slip road closures between A635 interchange at Marr and the A638 interchange at Redhouse.

M62 Greater Manchester: Lane closures jns 12-14 (Eccles interchange with M63/M602 and M61/A580 interchange).

M63 Greater Manchester: Construction of M63 flyover at Portwood, Stockport.

Wales and the West

M4 Wiltshire: Lane closures and speed restrictions jns 15-12 (Swindon/Theale).

M4 Wales: Lane closures at jn 29 (A48M) and jns 34-37 (Llantrisant/Portcaw).

M5 Somerset: Lane closures jns 21-31 (Weston-super-Mare/Exeter).

Scotland

M8 Lothian: Eastbound traffic on hard shoulder only jn 3 (A899). Eastbound entry slip closed.

M8 Strathclyde: Lane closures jns 16-15 (Glasgow centre/Townhead). Eastbound entry slip at jn 16 and eastbound exit slip at jn 15 closed.

M9 Central: Southbound lane closures jns 10-9 (Stirling).

M80 Central: Northbound lane closure jns 5 and M9 (Stirling).

Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch.

The push to the provinces continues

A Conservative MP will today lead a deputation to ministers to try to stop the dispersal of Civil Servants from London to South Wales.

He could, if the smoke signals that have started to rise above the Treasury mean anything, be the first of many lobbyists with a similar mission to keep Civil Servants in the capital.

On behalf of business users of the Patent Office, Mr Nicholas Winterton, MP for Macclesfield, is trying to persuade the Department of Trade and Industry to have second thoughts about moving the office to Newport in Gwent.

There has been no official announcement that the office is to be shifted down the M4 to Wales. However, rumours that the move is to take place have been very strong recently. They have been fortified by the impression of a Civil Service that is being increasingly dispersed, prodded by property prices and Treasury pressure to cut departmental running costs.

Some of the changes are only across London. In a move that had more to do with local snobbery than economy, parts of the Department of Health and Social Security (the department's "policy-influential officials", in the phrase coined by Mr Patrick Dunleavy of the London School of Economics) recently forsook the Elephant and Castle to take over plush new quarters in Richmond Terrace off Whitehall.

Other changes involve moves further afield. Personnel management in the

Ministry of Defence is to be concentrated in Bath; the Inland Revenue has located its new profit-related pay office in Cumbria; under a plan announced last summer, by 1991 21 central tax districts will be administered from provincial cities such as Glasgow. Tax inspectors will not move to London because of the cost of living in the capital so the Inland Revenue is trying to have corporate tax work dealt with in the areas where it can get staff.

Such moves are ad hoc. What is now being prepared by the Treasury is a general policy in favour of dispersal, perhaps even a timetable for moving that will be forced on departments.

Mr Peter Brooke, the Paymaster General, in a recent parliamentary answer, said the policy would reflect improvements in information technology, communication and transport and "the potential benefits to the Civil Service and to the localities concerned of sitting work in areas where labour supply conditions and costs are favourable".

The first motive for Whitehall dispersal was bombs. In 1940, Civil Servants colonized Bath, Blackpool, Colwyn Bay, and Harrogate to move files out of the Luftwaffe's way. In the 1960s, dispersal was seen as part of regional policy, as much to benefit the assisted areas as the departments.

Now the motive force in the Treasury seems to be money and a perceived opportunity to cut away the power of national Civil Service trade unions;

officials not only ought to cost less in Cumbria but there ought also to be less scope there for collective bargaining by militant trade unions.

Until the Treasury completes its review, the bible for dispersers remains the report by Sir Henry Hardman to the Health Commission in 1973, which broke new ground by advocating the dispersal not just of the jobs of clerks but also of "policy influencers".

A measure of what has been achieved is that in the early 1970s just over one in four Civil Servants (excluding industrial workers in defence establishments) was based in London; now it is about one in five.

In absolute terms, there were 143,000 London-based officials in 1972 and today there are about 116,000. Under Mrs Thatcher, about 5,560 jobs have been pushed out of London, 2,000 to Scotland and about 1,200 to the North-west.

What seems to be missing from the Treasury's thinking is the positive boost dispersal could give to inner-city policy, not just providing jobs but augmenting the cultural and administrative life of provincial cities.

In the 1970s the cry from Civil Servants was "don't send us to Bootle"; their fear was that the quality of life was poorer on Merseyside. In the 1980s, with the inflation of house prices in London and acute staffing problems, even Bootle has new attractions.

The Dispersal of Government Work from London (Stationery Office, £1.30)

WHITEHALL BRIEF by David Walker

WORLD ROUNDUP

Moscow admits hitting US ships

Moscow — Soviet warships were responding to orders and physically trying to force US vessels out of territorial waters when they collided in the Black Sea last Friday, prompting strong diplomatic protests in Washington and Moscow (Christopher Walker writes).

In a detailed report yesterday, *Pravda* said the collision occurred when the frigates *Bezzavestny* and *SKR 6* began to "shoulder" the US cruiser *Yorktown* and the destroyer *Caron* out of Soviet territorial waters.

The account, which quoted the commander of one of the Soviet frigates, appeared to contradict the denial on Saturday by Rear-Admiral Nikolai Markov, the Soviet naval spokesman, that the ships had deliberately rammed the US vessels. He said then that the collision occurred because of "dangerous manoeuvres" by the two US ships.

PLO men US threat killed

Nicosia (Reuters) — A bomb killed three officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the southern Cypriot coastal resort of Limassol yesterday, PLO sources said. They alleged that the Israeli secret service, Mossad, was responsible.

Police said the car bomb exploded shortly after noon in the tourist area, ending a relative lull in Middle East-linked violence on the island. The sources said one victim was a humanitarian affairs officer in Lebanon and the others were involved in activities in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Goria to stay on Sudanese end siege

Rome — President Cossiga has rejected the resignation of Signor Giovanni Goria, the Prime Minister, and sent him back to steer a controversial budget Bill through Parliament (Roger Boyes writes).

Signor Goria will lead the Government into the final budget debate on Wednesday. Once the budget is approved, he will submit his resignation again and the President will see if he can patch up the differences or find a new coalition.

Paraguay poll arrests

Asunción (AFP) — Police detained opposition leader Señor Domingo Laino and two other members of the proscribed Authentic Radical Liberal Party as Paraguayans voted yesterday in a poll expected to give an eighth term to President Stroessner, right.

General Stroessner, aged 75, is expected to win about 90 per cent of the votes in elections called a fraud and a farce by the opposition.

Señor Laino spoke at an anti-election rally on Saturday and was forced to flee by taxi when police broke up the protest. He was detained yesterday en route to Casaguan, 125 miles east of Asunción, where a Mass and another demonstration had been planned.

US warned it may lose scientific edge

From Cheryl Platzman-Weinstock, New York

The next US Administration must make big changes in science and technology policy-making if the United States is to retain a scientific edge, the American Association for the Advancement of Science was told in Boston yesterday.

Mr William Carey, a past president of the organization and adviser to the Carnegie Corporation on science policy, said: "The United States could find itself a dead nation in science innovation at the end of the decade unless it takes strong action and full advantages of the times."

But Dr Lewis Branscomb, the director of science technology and public policy at Harvard, said that the picture was "not all that gloomy".

The problem was that scientists were more eager to give advice if the President was ready to listen. He suggested that the next President should appoint a science adviser to foster a better relationship.

Mr Roland Schmidt, the senior vice-president and chief scientist at the General Electric Company in New York, said he thought that the US was a "leading nation in

generic science" but had failed to develop original research into successful products.

He suggested that one way to counter this trend was to foster education.

Mr Branscomb said he agreed, and noted there was a paucity of Americans doing post-graduate work in en-

gineering. He added: "There has got to be an American upheaval in education."

He charged that "not only do we have an illiterate workforce unable to use modern tools, but we have lousy job training to help engineers go into production". There needed to be a formal engineering curriculum developed which would foster production as well as research.

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Gandhi's Cabinet shuffle

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, right, and members of his Cabinet during the induction ceremony for new ministers in Delhi.

Mr Gandhi, quashing speculation about a snap general election, reshuffled the Cabinet yesterday (Reuters reports). He did not switch key ministers but he made 16 changes to complete the team most likely to lead his Congress (I) party into national elections due by December next year.

He also replaced the Chief Ministers of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh states, Congress strongholds riven with party feuding.



The New Hampshire campaign

Robertson puts his faith in patriotism

From Michael Binyon, Merrimack, New Hampshire

The Rev Pat Robertson would like to meet Mrs Thatcher. There isn't any other candidate who has been to Watts or the South Side of Chicago. The black people are my friends. I've been endorsed by Cuban leaders in Miami, who see me as a friend and ally.

He attributed his easy links with middle America — "the lunch-bucket crowd, the johnny six-packs" — to his religious faith.

"My message is let's make America number one, let's return to individual initiative, faith in God, family values, stop the budget waste. People respond." It drew to him people who had never voted in their lives and those who say they would otherwise vote for liberal Democrats.

But while insisting that strong religious convictions were in the mainstream of American politics, marking many former Presidents and underlying the Constitution, Mr Robertson — who does not like to be called the Reverend since his resignation from his Baptist ministry — is angered by attempts to marginalize his appeal or confine him with his "born again" background.

But he insisted that he was a man of the people in a way that country club Republicans were not. "No other Republican has been feeding, clothing and educating the poor

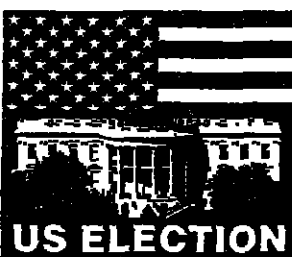
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One newspaper asked him what position he took when he prayed. "I said it's none of your business. It's outrageous, a nutty question. It's an insult. I'm running for President. I wanted to be treated as a legitimate candidate. I've won all the races so far."

On more presidential issues, he was just as outspoken. While balking at "evil empire" terminology — "I don't want to get caught in phraseology that's written by one of Reagan's speechwriters" — he made clear his visceral hatred of communism and distrust of the Soviet Union.

"Marxism is a perversion of human nature — a failed economic system, an excuse to establish an oligarchy of the privileged few who will then rule over the masses. Communism presents itself as the inevitable sweep of history, when in actuality it is naked power and military force

subjugating millions of people. I want to begin the decolonization of the Soviet empire."

He has taken a close interest in anti-communist resistance, travelling to the Nicaraguan and Afghan borders and also meeting guerrilla groups from Angola and Mozambique. He is fluent in the names of rebel leaders, the history of the Pathans and Baluchis and 19th-century British involvement in Afghanistan.

Fully briefed, he insisted that with the withdrawal of General Alexander Haig he had as much foreign policy experience as any rival Republican contender, "though George Bush has been to some wonderful funerals along the way".

Those, he said, who should be liberated from the Soviet yoke, encouraged in some cases with US arms and supplies, would "absolutely" include such peoples as Lithuanians and Ukrainians. "Those people were given away at Yalta. Roosevelt had this silly idealism."

He blamed the late President Kennedy for not sending in tanks to tear down the Berlin Wall and for giving Khrushchev a Cuban bastion. "I want to see a roll-back of

communism, the myth of its invincibility shattered."

Where did arms control fit into this view? "I am for arms control, but I am for linkage. It's very simple — if a man stole my wallet, I would prefer he gave my wallet back before I negotiated a \$1,000 loan." He acknowledged that linkage was a Henry Kissinger concept, but said the former Secretary of State was right.

"We must link arms control to Soviet treaty violations and violations of human rights."

He called the INF Treaty "a disaster". It would not destroy warheads, but merely allow the Russians to get rid of obsolete delivery systems and refit the warheads on new SS25 missiles.

The treaty would also decouple Europe. It was no use leaving only an American tripwire, which was meaningless without the American nuclear shield.

Mr Robertson said he could not believe that Mrs Thatcher and Chancellor Helmut Kohl supported the treaty.

The Soviet aim remained to dominate Europe militarily, politically and economically, and the INF Treaty would allow Moscow to do so.

If he met Mr Gorbachev, he would tell him: "I'm an American. I believe in free enterprise. I believe in individual freedom and human rights. I want human rights violations in the Soviet Union and in their empire to cease."

Would he like to meet Mr Gorbachev? "Not particularly. I would if I had to, but it wouldn't be one of the highlights of my life," he said, chuckling amiably. But, he added, he would like to meet Mrs Thatcher. "She's one of the lights of this world."

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Simon struggles to stay in race

From Michael Binyon, Jaffrey, New Hampshire

It was snug and bright in the Old Forge Restaurant where about 40 people from this little town in the southern hills of New Hampshire had gathered in the evening, in the tradition of old New England town meetings.

Most were curious to see whether Senator Paul Simon was as quickly old-fashioned as implied by the bow tie, horn-rimmed spectacles and carobes that are a cartoonist's delight.

The Illinois senator, who boasts that he is "not neo-anything", but stands for the Hubert Humphrey liberalism of the old Democratic Party, is fighting here for political survival. Unless he can galvanize the few liberals of southern New Hampshire and convince them he is both relevant and electable, he will be beaten on Tuesday by Congressman Richard Gephardt, and his almost bankrupt campaign will be effectively over.

The senator comes in to warm applause. He looks everything the caricaturists have seized on: short, rumpled, earnest, looking more old-

fashioned than his years with the naive sincerity and squeaky clean background of a Middle Western Lutheran pastor's son.

He stiffly attempts some small-town banter, asking the names of the babies and children in the audience. And then he starts. "I'm in this race because I know this nation can do better. I want to have a government that cares once again, one that cares for the less fortunate. We determine the state of this Union not by the President's address to Congress but by the men sleeping on the streets two blocks from the White House."

He has a wonderfully rich, deep, baritone voice and speaks with slow deliberation, rather like old records of Robert Frost reading his own poetry.

"For too many people this Administration has been out to lunch. For too many working men and women, it has been out to lunch. For too many unemployed, too many old people..." He goes through the list. "What you

have to do in New Hampshire is to send a signal to the nation that the lunch period is about to be over." He talks about his voting record, his unpopular stand as a senator from a coal-burning state against acid rain pollution, his opposition to nuclear power and his plans for long-term health care.

It is the fifth time he has made the speech in a day, and he seems tired, speaking almost automatically. "I am talking about jobs for people, quality education. I can't tell you precisely how this will affect you good people in this township in... New Hampshire." He recovered quickly from forgetting where he was, and went on to the peroration.

"The most important issue — and if I'm wrong on this, I'm wrong on everything — is arms control. I want to maintain a strong defence, but seize responsible opportunities for peace."

Mr Simon, who began his career as a plucky small-town editor exposing police graft and corruption, came back to Hubert Humphrey, his sym-

bol of virtue, compassion and caring. He recalled the dying senator's last address to Congress. Humphrey's hopes for peace and freedom and opportunity.

"We live in a good country, and in most respects a great country. We cannot solve problems overnight in Washington, but can build leadership, brick by brick. Ask yourselves which of the candidates can build a brighter future."

It had echoes of the idealistic 1960s, and Mr Simon is counting on disillusionment with the hedonistic 1980s. He faces a dilemma now: should he go after Mr Gephardt with dirty but effective negative advertising, or play clean and watch his fellow Midwesterner roll forwards on the Iowa momentum? Reluctantly, he has let the advertisements run. ("If someone starts shooting at you, you shoot back," he once said).

Like all presidential candidates, he shook us each by the hand afterwards. "I like him, he's got his heart in the right place," my neighbour said. "But is he electable?"

Democratic rivals turn on Gephardt

From Our Own Correspondent, Nashua, New Hampshire

While national attention has been focused on the internecine fighting among the Republicans, the battle among the seven Democrats also intensified at the weekend, with a concerted attack on Congressman Richard Gephardt by three of his rivals.

Senator Paul Simon took the offensive and struck out during a final debate among Democrats at Mr Gephardt's "flip-flops." Polls show the two are neck and neck, though both trail Governor Michael Dukakis, the front-runner, by 25 points.

Senator Albert Gore also challenged Mr Gephardt with a coarse attack on him by a Gephardt aide who called him a "phony, two-bit bastard."

Mr Gore demanded a public apology, which the chastened Missouri congressman gave.

Mr Bruce Rabbitt, who has all but withdrawn from the race, joined in the "pet Gephardt" onslaught, saying that his many changes of positions were not flip-flops

but a "triple back somersault with a half-twist."

The debate was a far cry from the gentlemanly discussions among Democrats six months ago. Only Mr Dukakis, who as Governor of Massachusetts is running here almost as a favourite son, remained above the fray, consolidating his reputation. The other candidates have mostly conceded him victory.

On the Republican side, Mr Pat Robertson continued to draw support and controversy. In an interview with David Frost, he said he would not have hesitated to kill Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, who was a "madman and a terrorist."

WASHINGTON: Senator Joseph Biden, the Delaware Democrat whose presidential aspirations collapsed following the discovery that he had plagiarized Mr Neil Kinnock's speeches, was in a serious condition yesterday after an artery burst at the base of his brain.

Kinnock backs Peres on Middle East peace conference

From Philip Webster, Cairo

Mr Neil Kinnock began a week-long visit to the Middle East yesterday after giving strong backing to the proposal for an international peace conference which divides the Israeli coalition Government.

The Labour Party leader was arriving in Cairo last night for a fact-finding tour, which may take him into controversy when he visits the occupied West Bank and Gaza and Israel later in the week.

He is expected to voice disapproval at the harsh measures

undertaken by Israeli troops to counter the Palestinian uprising which have resulted in more than 50 deaths. Mr Kinnock accepted yesterday that there was a danger that visits such as his could create incidents in the strife-torn areas. But he said that precautions were being taken to reduce that risk.

He said that it was an "interesting and challenging time" to visit the region, both because of the tragedy of the present situation and, with the latest American peace initiative, because the parties were again "at the threshold of possible progress". Developments were needed which

would end the chronic turmoil, danger and awful waste.

Mr Kinnock, who is accompanied by his wife, Glenys, on his first visit to the region, is expected to have talks with President Mubarak of Egypt in Cairo, and Mr Zaid al-Rifai, the Jordanian Prime Minister, in Amman. In Israel he will see Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the Labour Party and Foreign Minister, and Mr Yitzhak Rabin, Minister of Defence.

Like other British politicians before him, the Labour leader will not flinch from criticizing the conditions

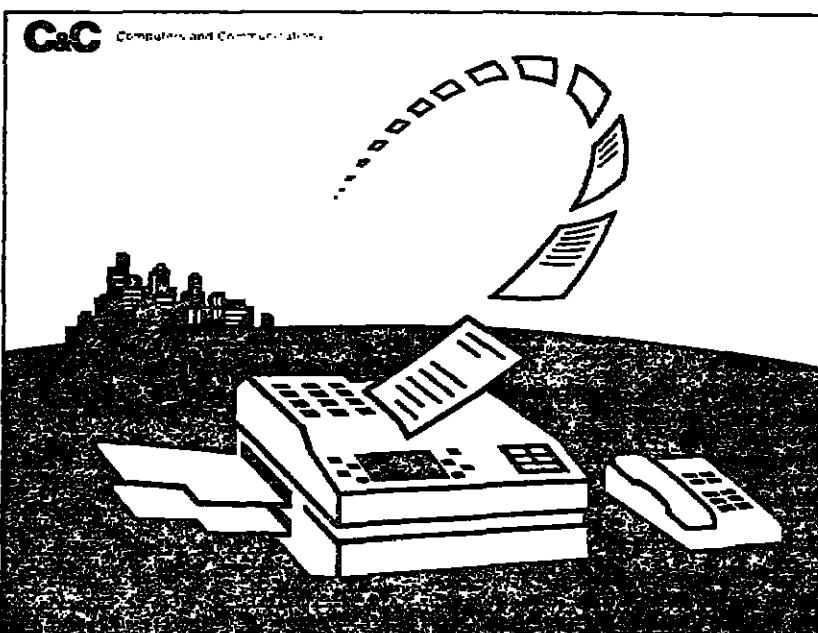
at the Arab refugee camps in the occupied territories and, according to party sources, he will "express concern" at the policy of "might, power and beatings" announced by to control the unrest.

By backing the peace conference, Mr Kinnock will be boosting Mr Peres in the general election which must take place before November.

In a BBC interview yesterday, Mr Kinnock said that, although the Israeli Government was "patently divided", there was widespread support for the part, led by Mr Peres, which was saying "let us have an international conference".

He voiced optimism over last week's peace mission by Mr Richard Murphy, the US Assistant Secretary of State, which is now to be followed by a tour of the region by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State.

JERUSALEM: Druze villagers on the Golan Heights staged demonstrations yesterday to mark the sixth anniversary of the extension of Israeli law to cover the area (Ian Murray writes). The Israeli Army has opened an inquiry into a story that an officer ordered four young Palestinians to be buried alive by a bulldozer after they had been beaten by troops and settlers at Salem.



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صكنا من الاصل

Chancellor threatens to resign in Austrian row

By Our Foreign Staff

Chancellor Franz Vranitzky of Austria yesterday threatened to resign because, he said, the controversy surrounding President Waldheim was preventing his Government from tackling other problems.

In his most critical comments ever about Dr Waldheim, Herr Vranitzky said the President had made only a "tiny start" in responding to a damning historians' report on his wartime past and doubted whether he could ever regain his credibility.

The Socialist Chancellor said in a television interview that President Waldheim had not dealt seriously with the truth.

Herr Vranitzky said he and his supporters must recognize that the President faced opposition at home as well as abroad and not blame his current difficulties on an "international Jewish conspiracy".

Yesterday afternoon more than 5,000 people, including many intellectuals, actors and artists, gathered in central Vienna to demonstrate against Dr Waldheim.

About half of them marched to the Hofburg palace, which accommodates the President's office. They stood there for about 20 minutes, yelling such slogans as "Waldheim must go" and "No March, 1988, with Waldheim".

On March 11 several events are scheduled to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Austria's annexation by Nazi Germany.

Dr Waldheim has ignored growing pressure to resign after the report that concluded he helped ease the way for war crimes while serving in the German Army in the Second World War.

Herr Vranitzky said that the

Socialist-led governing coalition with the conservative People's Party had made significant achievements since coming to power in January 1987, but that he now spent 60 per cent of his work time on the Waldheim affair.

He said that, if "within a foreseeable time" he must continue in this way, "then I will not be able to take my other real duties seriously, and then the question will arise for me if I actually can go on in that way." Asked if this meant he was prepared to resign, Herr Vranitzky responded: "Yes, that is correct."

Dr Waldheim was due to broadcast a televised statement to the nation this evening to respond more fully to the historians' report, his spokesman said.

Herr Vranitzky continued to refuse openly to demand President Waldheim's resignation, saying that, given the former UN Secretary-General's current mood, it was more likely to lead to a break-up of the Government than removal of the President.

● **BERLIN:** Up to 80,000 documents are missing from US-run archives that house millions of Nazi files and they could have been used to blackmail people, the *Berliner Morgenpost* said yesterday (Reuters reports).

A spokesman for the US mission in West Berlin called the figure speculative, but declined to comment further.

He confirmed that American officials were working with the divided city's Justice Department on a criminal inquiry at the Berlin Document Centre and added: "We take our responsibilities at the centre very seriously."

Official killed in Bangladesh blast

From Ahmed Fazi, Dhaka

A government official was killed in a bomb attack on a bus as violence continued to grip Bangladesh the wake of the bloody local government elections which left a total of 163 people dead.

The murdered official, Mr Mohammad Patwary, had ignored calls to join the strike. In another incident, a student opposition leader was killed by unidentified assailants.

About 200 others were injured in sporadic clashes with police during a two-day strike called by the main opposition parties to press their demand for the Government's resignation.

Police and paramilitary forces with automatic weapons patrolled the nearly empty streets in Dhaka. Life in the capital and three other main cities came to a standstill as banks and cinemas were closed and schools were shut down for fear of more violence.

Opposition sources said more than 50 people were arrested in Dhaka.

The Awami League and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, and the two alliances they separately lead, began their 23rd strike on Saturday in a continuing campaign to unseat President Ershad.

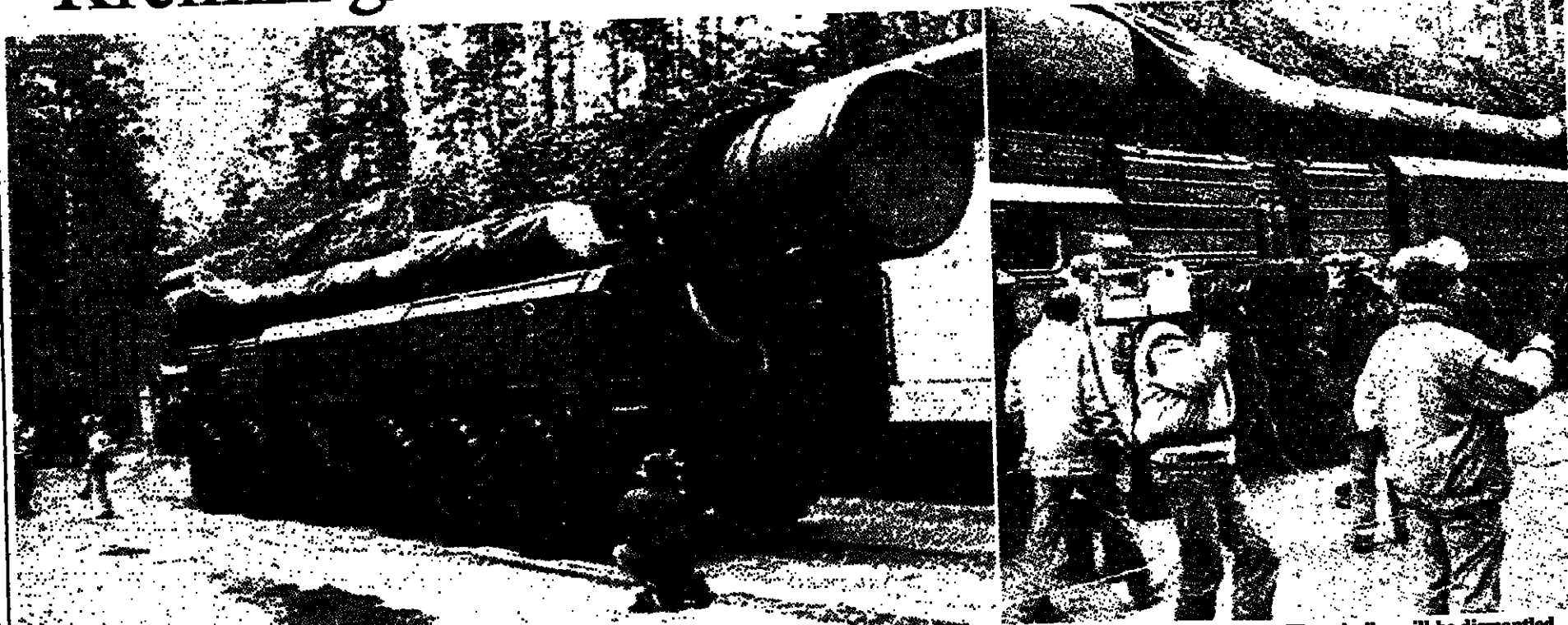
They have blamed the Government for killings in Wednesday's elections, and have called for a national boycott of the parliamentary election on March 3.

President Ershad called the mid-term election after dissolving the legislative assembly dominated by his own party amid allegations of vote-rigging during the May 1986 election.

Throughout Bangladesh, the police said three people were killed and more than 450 were injured in post-election clashes at the weekend. A village was burnt down by supporters of a rival candidate for mayor in central Comilla district.

According to official statistics, more than 90 people died in the local government election.

Kremlin gives newsmen rare look at missiles



Cameras from the Eastern bloc being allowed to film for the first time Soviet SS20 missiles in a forest in the western part of the Soviet Union. The missiles will be dismantled under the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Agreement signed in Washington by Mr Gorbachev and President Reagan. The photographs were released by the East German news agency.

EEC farm reform deal

Thatcher averts another summit failure

From Richard Owen, Brussels

As EEC officials and diplomats digested the remarkable farm reform deal hammered out by near-exhausted European leaders in the early hours of Saturday morning, the talking point in the EEC corridors of power at the weekend was why Mrs Thatcher had risked charges of a "sell-out".

The dominant conclusion was that she had apparently decided it was best to avoid another summit collapse, with Britain the isolated nation of the Twelve. Europe had been enabled to go forward to the completion of an internal market without frontiers in 1992, while the UK could get the best deal on offer to begin to put a stop to some of the greater humiliations of the common agricultural policy.

The one uncertainty left is whether EEC foreign ministers might unravel the whole package when they meet a week today, at the insistence of France, to reconsider the lesser but vital matter of controls on non-arable products such as wine, sugar, sheep meat and tobacco.

The failure by Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany to get a grip on the summit until late on the second day brought the bitter accusation from British officials that the meeting was

"heading for the rocks, and it is only a matter of which rock the ship crashes on".

Yet the final intense flurry of eleventh-hour bargaining resulted in an undoubted triumph for him. As Herr Kohl brought the summit back from the brink of collapse, the final round became an acrimonious confrontation between Mrs Thatcher and M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister.

At Brussels last June, when she first vetoed the Delors package designed to put an end to the EEC's recurrent budget crisis, M Chirac had accused Mrs Thatcher of acting like a "housewife" in insisting on strict budgetary discipline and iron-cast guarantees of farm cuts.

This time the Anglo-French atmosphere was even worse, with M Chirac acutely conscious that both he and (presumably) President Mitterrand would be facing the voters in April's presidential election. He used the word *coûtilles* (bollocks) when Mrs Thatcher angrily accused him of holding up the summit over non-arable products.

When she finally emerged at 2am to explain the deal to waiting reporters, Mrs Thatcher, strained and white-faced, was still mentally fighting M Chirac as a stream of technical data poured forth in an attempt to prove that she had won and achieved the deal

that she wanted. M Chirac's behaviour had been "unbelievable". "Only a Frenchman could have done that," she declared. "Crazy... Gilbertian. I never did understand men."

The post-summit consensus as the drama of the summit fades is that, on the whole, Mrs Thatcher did give way, and not only on the farm question. Britain agreed to an increase in aid to the southern countries (the "structural funds") of 80 per cent by 1992, with a doubling thereafter, having previously insisted - right up to the midnight turnaround - that the absolute maximum lay between 50 and 60 per cent.

On the overall limit to EEC revenues (own resources), Britain agreed to a figure equivalent to 2 per cent of national VAT receipts, compared with the present figure



Chancellor Kohl: Bargaining brought 11th-hour success.

of 1.4 per cent - a limit Britain had fought tooth and nail to preserve since 1984.

Above all, Mrs Thatcher, to general disbelief, suddenly accepted the Franco-German demand for a ceiling on cereals of 160 million tonnes, though she had until then adamantly stuck to a maximum of 155 million tonnes on the ground that this was equivalent to EEC consumption plus an allowance for exports. There were equally unexpected UK concessions on oil seeds, leading some experts in Brussels to doubt whether the surpluses really will be curbed.

On the other hand, Mrs Thatcher can justly claim that the automatic cumulative price cuts of 3 per cent, to come into effect as soon as the 160 million tonnes limit is breached, are a Franco-German concession and are the first automatic cuts used to check the food mountains. As Herr Kohl admitted, he had also made "sacrifices". He may well face some backlash from West German farmers in forthcoming local elections.

Equally, Mrs Thatcher won the battle of the British budget rebate, which she said had saved UK taxpayers £3,000 million over three years, despite last-minute efforts by the French to have it reconsidered. Recalculation of the rebate should be in Britain's favour.

And agricultural spending is pegged at nearly £20 billion a year, close to the figure demanded by Britain, with increases limited to 74 per cent of average national growth.

Mrs Thatcher's final remark was: "We've got them all sorted out". The deal, she maintained, was not a fudge, and no farmer facing price cuts would see it as a fudge.

In a phrase which suggested she was thinking in broad European terms, she said that the summit had struck a compromise to clear the way for 1992, to the benefit of all European citizens as well as the British consumer and business community. M Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission, who had threatened to resign if the package was not passed, was euphoric, calling it "the happiest day of my life".

Some diplomats even suggest that the summit may mark a sea change in Britain's relationship with Europe, with Continental leaders ceasing to regard Mrs Thatcher as a viciously anti-European and all too ready to use her veto.

Officials believe this atmosphere makes it unlikely that next week's foreign ministers' meeting will unpick the historic bargain, unless French leaders are unable to resist a damaging further burst of electioneering.

Leading article, page 13

Key points of the agreement struck in Brussels

From Jonathan Brande, Brussels

Details of the Brussels agreement: The budget: Under the five-year deal, the EEC budget will rise from £31,000 million in 1988 to £36,900 million in 1992. That means an increase of 42 per cent compared to the official 1987 budget and of 31 per cent compared with what was really spent last year.

By 1992 the member states will be pouring the equivalent of 1.2 per cent of the Community's gross national product into the Brussels coffers. That is the equivalent of 1.9 per cent of VAT, using the traditional calculation. The total VAT contribution in 1987 was 1.4 per cent.

Rather than increase the VAT contribution further, the summit agreed to find the extra funds from a payment based on each nation's gross national product. This takes closer

account of each nation's ability to pay than the old VAT key. The system works in Britain's favour, reducing the burden on the UK taxpayer.

The British budget rebate, which Mrs Thatcher extracted from her EEC colleagues during the early 1980s, remains intact. However, it will be adjusted to take account of the benefits of the new GNP key. Since 1984 the rebate has saved British taxpayers more than £3,000 million, half of it in 1987 alone. Mrs Thatcher said it would bring Britain's 1988 contributions to the equivalent of 0.5 per cent of VAT.

Agricultural stabilizers: For the next four seasons Mrs Thatcher has won legally binding curbs on agricultural spending. Known as "budgetary stabilizers", these set ceilings on the quantity of cereals and oilseeds that the EEC will subsidize in full.

For cereals, the threshold will be 160 million tonnes a year, although Mrs Thatcher wanted 155 million tonnes. If the harvest overshoots the threshold, there will be a price cut of 3 per cent in the next season. Mrs Thatcher wanted cuts in the same season.

Critics say the stabilizer will not even begin to bite until the price cuts accumulate over a period of years. With normal weather, the 1988 harvest is likely to reach 167 million. The threat of a 3 per cent price cut the following year is unlikely to affect farmers' intentions this spring.

A similar system applies to oilseeds and protein plants - rapeseed, sunflower seeds, soya beans, and peas, beans and lupins grown for animal feed. The ceiling for each of these is higher than Mrs Thatcher wanted. Agricultural spending: Governments have agreed a legally binding agricultural spending limit of £19,250 million for 1988, rising to £20,720 million by 1992. This will mean an almost total freeze on agricultural prices this year and limited rises from now on. Agriculture's share in the overall budget is set to decline to 62 per cent this year and to 56 per cent in 1992.

Structural funds: The main increase in future EEC spending will be on the so-called "structural funds", which provide the cash for regional development, urban renewal and job creation schemes in West Europe's poorest areas. The structural funds will increase to £5,460 million this year and £9,100 million in 1992, an increase of 80 per cent over 1987. Most of the new money will be spent in Portugal, Ireland, Spain and Greece. In the UK, only Northern Ireland and the highlands and islands of Scotland stand to get special treatment.

Tehran examines oil pipeline options to bolster Gulf War effort

By Nicholas Beeston

Iran is weighing up a number of oil pipeline projects which would reduce dependence on its battered tanker fleet and its vulnerable export terminal at Kharg Island.

Oil industry sources say that the options are: building a pipeline through Turkey; or two separate pipelines inside Iran to ports in the Gulf and near the Strait of Hormuz; or another to the Soviet Union.

Experts believe that if Tehran proceeds it could indicate that Iran intends to pursue its

conflict with Iraq for the foreseeable future.

The intention is to make it more difficult for Iraq to hamper oil exports, which bankroll Tehran's war effort.

The 1,300-mile Turkish pipeline project, which will be discussed today in Ankara during a visit by Mr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister, would carry Iranian crude from oilfields near Ahvaz in Khuzestan province to the Turkish port of Doryol on the Mediterranean.

The project has been repeatedly rejected as too costly. But

the high loss rate of Iranian vessels in the tanker war has persuaded Tehran that it must diversify its export facilities.

The warring states depend on oil exports for 90 per cent of their foreign earnings. This year Iraq is expected to increase its oil export revenues by \$3 billion - largely due to the construction of three pipelines - while Iran can expect its earnings to drop by \$1 billion.

Although Ankara is believed to be pressing hard for the lucrative pipeline scheme, oil analysts say that Tehran is

still reluctant to commit itself to a project which would cost between £1 billion and £2 billion and take at least two years to construct.

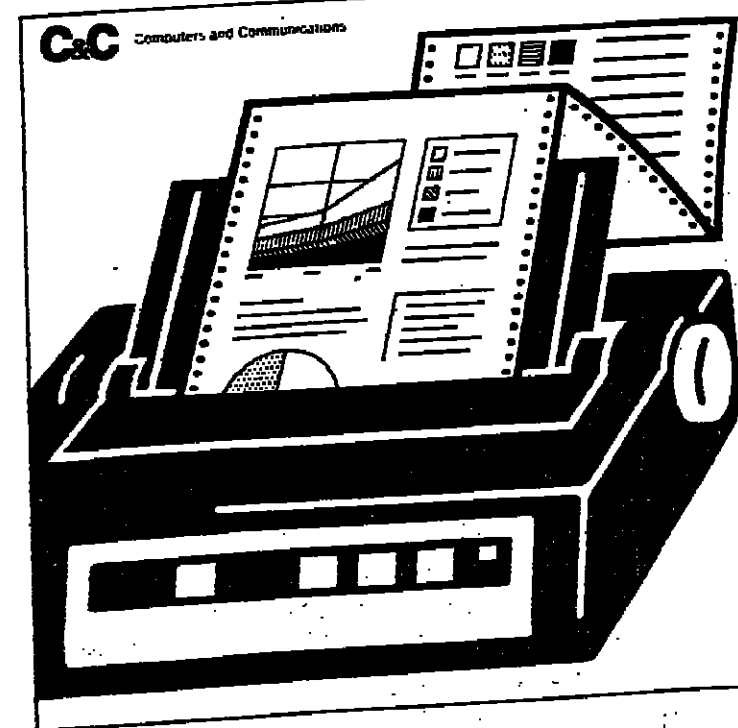
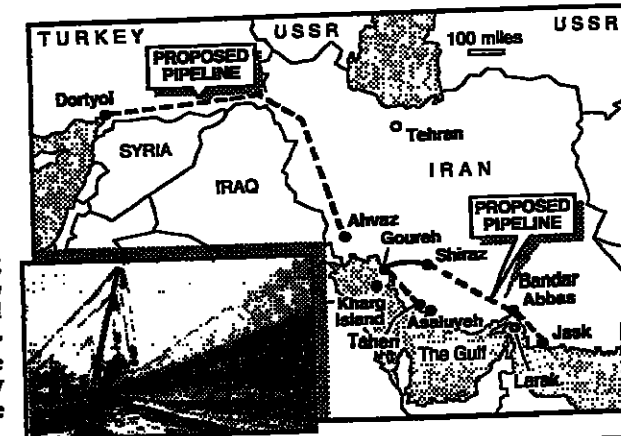
Well-placed Iranian sources predicted that Iran will construct a shorter internal pipeline, costing about \$400 million, from the strategic pumping station at Goveh, on the main Kharg pipeline, to the ports of Tabari and Asaluyeh 160 miles to the south.

"Most of the pipeline is already in place and they are using 'construction crusade'

volunteers to complete the rest," one analyst said. The new terminal would substantially reduce the distance shuttling tankers now cover from Kharg Island to the Larak oil terminal at the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran is also known to be considering a longer term and more costly scheme, opening an oil pipeline from Shiraz to the ports of Bandar Abbas and Jask at the mouth of the Gulf.

Iranian oil analysts agree that Tehran's least likely choice will be to turn to the Soviet Union.



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Growing clamour to stop plutonium air shipments to Japan

By Nicholas Beeston

A joint US-Japanese project to fly high-grade plutonium from Britain and France to Japan in the next decade is coming under growing world criticism for being unnecessarily hazardous.

A motion tabled by Mr Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal MP for Yeovil, will go before the House of Commons this week asking the Government to ban all plutonium flights until a "scientific review" of the plan can assess the risks involved.

The move follows a similar appeal in the European Parliament by Mr Ernest Gléne last week to the European Commission and the EEC Council of Ministers. He suggested that they investigate the effects of a plutonium leak from a US plane crash in Greenland 20 years ago, examine how vulnerable such flights would be to terrorist attacks, and check the legal aspects of the project.

The agreement, reached last year by President Reagan and Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Japanese Prime Minister, envisages the transporting from Japan of "spent nuclear fuel" for separation at the British Nuclear Fuels plant at Sella-

field and its French counterpart at Cap de la Hague.

Once the plutonium 239, which can also be used for nuclear weapons, is separated from the nuclear waste, it would be flown back to Japan by a specially fitted Boeing 747 Jumbo jet over Greenland and possibly Canada.

The deal, which would require up to three flights a month, has received a cool response in the United States. Two committees in the US Congress have refused to ratify the agreement, the Governor of Alaska, Mr Stephen Cowper, is filing a lawsuit against the Federal Government to ban flights carrying plutonium and the US Defence Department has raised objections as well.

The project is also likely to come under criticism from Denmark and Canada.

The main controversy centres on the possibility of an accident in flight and a leak of plutonium similar to the crash in 1968 of a US Air Force B52 bomber which came down in Thule, Greenland, carrying 35lb of plutonium.

"After the Greenland accident 800 Danish men and women were involved in the

clear-up operation, of which 500 became ill and 90 contracted cancer," said Mr Ashdown, who pointed out that a second leakage occurred after a similar air crash in Palomares, Spain.

The proposed flights would carry a quarter of a tonne of plutonium in 36 fortified casks, each weighing 15lb.

Critics argue that it is much safer to transport the plutonium by ship. In 1984 a Japanese cargo vessel carrying a quarter of a tonne of plutonium sailed from France, but it required protection from four navies, as well as air cover and satellite surveillance.

A spokesman for British Nuclear Fuels said that the casks destined to carry the plutonium had survived a test of being "dropped from 2,000ft on to an unyielding concrete surface" and that they could "withstand the worst possible impact damage".

The US Congress has until April 25 to accept the deal and is now considering whether to reject it completely or try to persuade the Reagan Administration to have it altered.

Fanning flames of protest



Mr Martin Lee, QC, a member of the Hong Kong Legislative Council, smiling defiantly yesterday as he burnt a copy of last week's White Paper which said direct elections would not be held in the British colony until 1991. He

was among 500 demonstrators who marched to Government House to protest that the administration had bowed to Chinese pressure to slow down democratic reform before the colony reverts to Peking's rule in 1997.

Bleak Korean peace watch at cold war front

From Gavin Bell, Panmunjom, Demilitarized Zone, Korea

It is always deadly cold at the Bridge of No Return, and sometimes it is simply deadly.

The wooden walkway which runs across a shallow stream marks a turning point on a highway, known variously as the United Nations Road and Main Supply Route 1, which once linked the Korean cities of Pyongyang and Seoul.

Now it is the end of the road. Nobody who values his or her life uses it any more, since it is situated in the middle of the demilitarized zone (DMZ) between the two Koreas, and is guarded at either end by soldiers trained to kill intruders. Even when the sun is high, the atmosphere is bleak.

The bridge derives its name from an exchange of prisoners after the 1950-53 Korean War, who were given an irreversible choice to cross it. In 1976, North Korean troops fled back across it after murdering two US officers a few yards away with axes.

With tension mounting again on the Korean peninsula, senior officers from both sides will gather in a building near by before the end of this month for a plenary session of the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) — the 441st time they have done so since the truce was signed in 1953.

The latest meeting has been called by the North, probably to protest both against forthcoming "joint" military exercises by US and South Korean forces, and allegations that it was responsible for the sabotage of a Korean airliner last November.

Among those seated at the green cloth-covered table will be Brigadier Tim Hackworth, formerly of the Royal Signals, who represents the Commonwealth on the commission.

As a veteran of 11 MAC meetings, he has perceived a change in the atmosphere in recent years. He says: "They used to be simplistic and ill-tempered, with each side frankly just being rude to the other."

"The North has since realized their propaganda value, given the presence of the media, and has become adept at making pithy statements which attempt to portray the United Nations command as a bad light."

Since no agenda is given by the side calling the meeting, the opposite number is compelled to prepare a huge number of responses on potential issues.

"At first sight, more than 400 meetings have achieved nothing," Brigadier Hackworth says. "On the other hand, the MAC has prevented

truce violations from escalating. There appears to be a genuine will on both sides to stop any incident from triggering another war."

"By maintaining a rather fragile state of non-hostilities for almost 35 years, we have provided security for the Republic's (South Korean) economic success. So while our achievement is passive rather than active, it actually amounts to a great deal."

Thirty miles to the south, at a secret location in Seoul, a large board registers intelligence reports on North Korean military activity. Periodically, it changes colour from green to orange, and in emergencies to red, depending on some 140 "indicators" ranging from increased fuel allocations to the military, movement of freight trains, and cancellation of leave. Presently, only eight indicators are showing.

Military commanders in the South think that the most immediate threat from the North will be commando raids aimed at disrupting preparations for the Olympic Games at Seoul in September.

At the same time, a military source said they are "watching with interest" the presence of four Soviet Sukhoi Su25 aircraft which arrived in Pyongyang late last year. The advanced fighters would give North Korea pilots a ground-attack capability which hitherto they have not have.

Back at the DMZ, there is evidence that North Korean engineers are continuing to tunnel silently 600ft beneath the demarcation line (DMEL) with a material called baritza, a Soviet development. The source said it acts like wall filler, expanding when dry with such strength it can fracture granite.

Three tunnels were exposed in the 1970s, one of them capable of infiltrating 24,000 troops an hour with Jeeps and field guns. It is suspected that there are at least 14 other tunnels.

On the surface, the Joint Security Area where the two sides will meet again shortly is quintessential Le Carré country. It is the freezing heart of the Cold War.

Soldiers as immobile as statues stare across the divide with evident hostility, curbing move briefly on the other side to reveal a telephoto lens. Visitors are warned not to make any hand or arm movements, and above all not to stray from their armed escorts. It is, as one US guard remarked, "a very spooky place".

Crisis in Malaysia

King makes plea to back Mahathir

From Our Correspondent, Kuala Lumpur

The King of Malaysia, Sultan Mahmood Iskandar of Johore, yesterday urged his people to support Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, the Prime Minister, who is facing the severest test of his leadership after the High Court declared his dominant party illegal.

The King, who normally stays above politics, made the plea during a televised awards presentation.

"Loyalty and co-operation must be extended to the Prime Minister and his Cabinet for peace and harmony...to prevent chaos...The Malays should avoid bickering among themselves," the King said.

The court ruling on February 4 that the United Malay National Organisation (UMNO) was an illegal society has prompted doubt on the legality of Dr Mahathir's leadership. In the 13-party ruling coalition as well as in Parliament, UMNO was the biggest party of the National Front coalition and its leader is traditionally the Prime Minister.

Last night Dr Mahathir attended a ceremony in Kuala Lumpur to receive pledges of support from more than 600 MPs, senators and state assemblymen.

Dr Mahathir assured them that he would be able to employ measures to revive UMNO, including amending the law. "The law of the God cannot be changed but laws made by human beings can."

The appearance was unusual for Dr Mahathir, who has retired into his shell since the ruling, leaving it to others to whip up support for him. But he remains very much in control of the situation: he is not likely to back down in a confrontation.

The High Court position follows an attempt by 11 UMNO members to force fresh party elections after at least 30 unregistered branches took part in last April's election. Dr Mahathir won the party presidency then by only 43 votes.

While some critics believe that he should at least have resigned as Prime Minister, it is clear that he has no such

intention. Yesterday he hit out at the UMNO members who initiated the court action, saying "he would not bow to pressure to resign."

For now he has the upper hand, especially after the first Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Rahman, surprised everyone by attempting to register a new political party, Umno Malaysia '88. That attempt seems to have lost steam. Many of those put up as members of the court of committee say they were not consulted and that, if they had been, they would have refused.

The key to Dr Mahathir's future lies in the UMNO rank-and-file. The court decision has snapped the emotional link between the Malays and



Sultan Mahmood Iskandar. Appeal to prevent chaos.

UMNO, and there is some worry that support may be lacking. Some sources predict a state of emergency and the suspension of Parliament and state assemblies.

It is not clear how the crisis can be resolved without much harm. But so far Dr Mahathir has managed to break his opponents in the party.

The growing view is that he may win this particular battle but could lose the war. When elections are eventually held, he would be challenged with more vehemence than before.

The attitude of the nine rulers is crucial and many Malays will have taken a signal from yesterday's plea from the King. But there are reports that Dr Mahathir's relationship with the man who would be King next year — Sultan Azlan Shah of Perak — is not as good as it should be.

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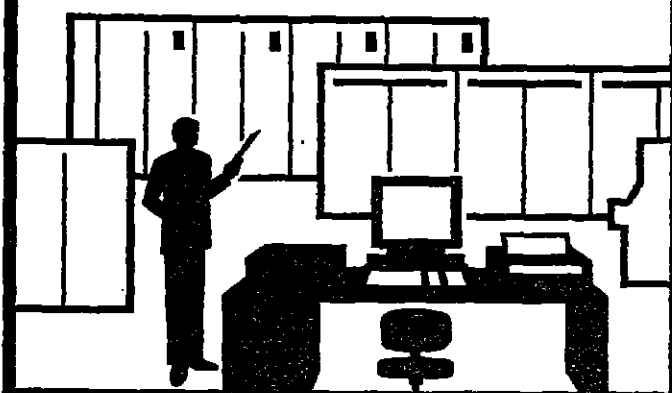
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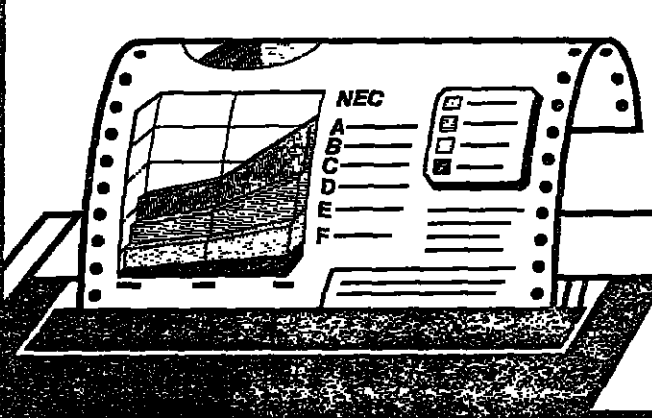
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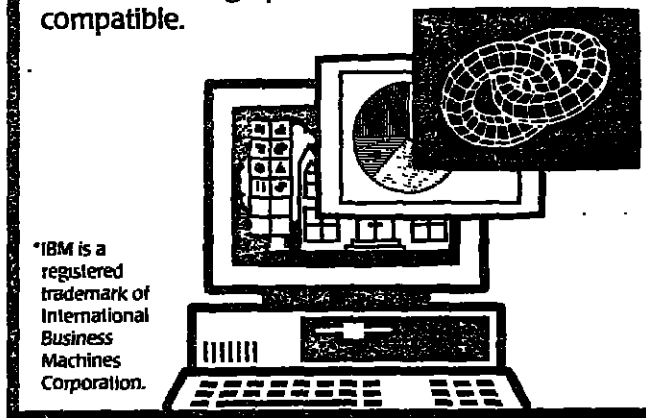
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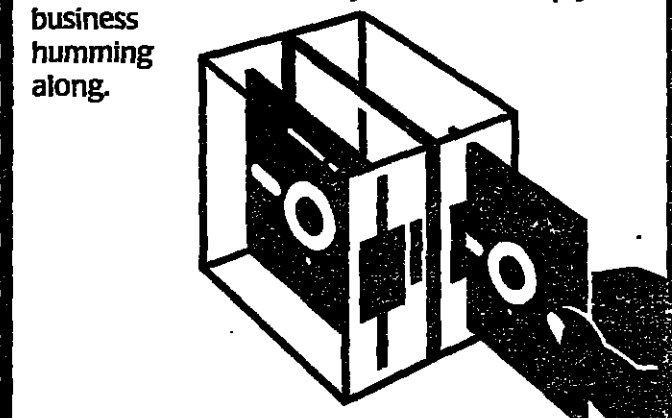
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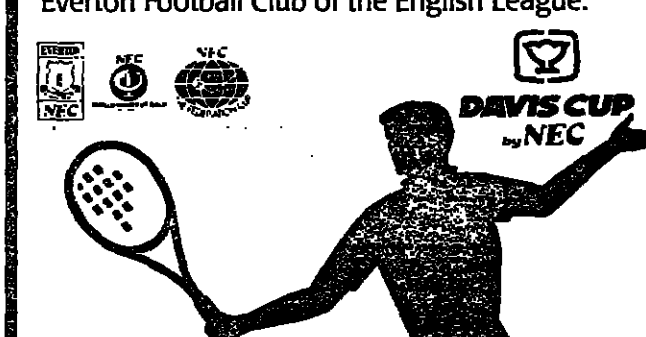
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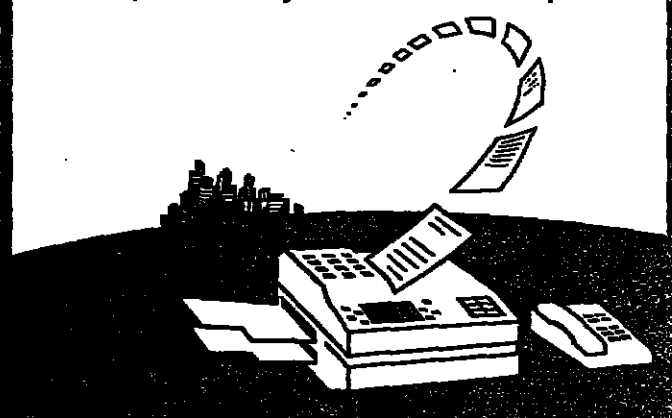
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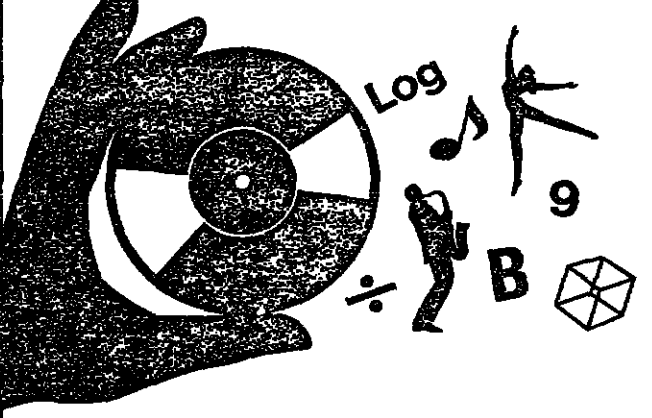
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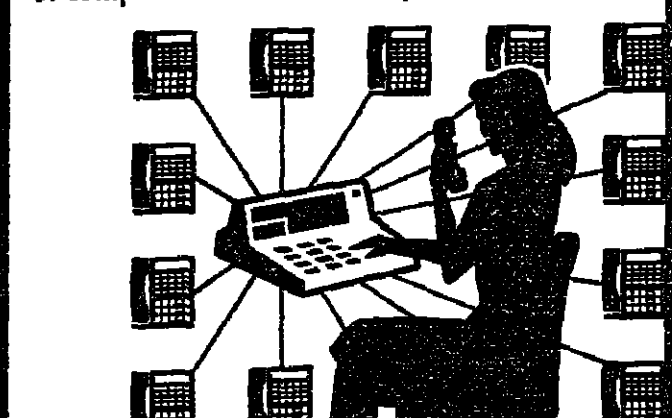
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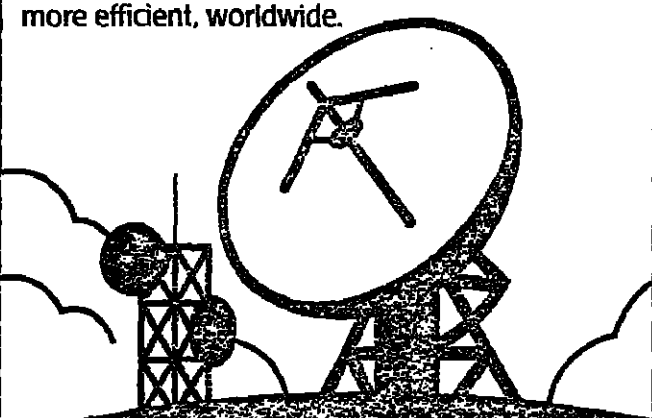
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NEC

Enter the prophet of gloom

Professor Allan Bloom has shaken America's academic establishment with his best-selling tome, *The Closing of the American Mind*. He tells Charles Bremner how the liberalism of the Sixties has spawned cultural illiterates

To his critics, he is the Oliver North of the academics, a dangerous reactionary with a seductive thesis that threatens democracy. To his admirers, he is a prophet whose diagnosis of America's intellectual collapse may help save the country from the tyranny of ignorance. Allan Bloom, until a few months ago an obscure expert on Plato and Rousseau, does not have the air of an iconoclast, but he relishes his new status as a celebrity and champion of the fight against philistinism.

Surveying the neo-Gothic sprawl of the University of Chicago from his home, Bloom chuckles over the horns' nest he stirred up in academe last year with his unlikely best seller, *The Closing of the American Mind*.

But the ferocious counter-attack, says the 36-year-old professor, has convinced him that he was right. "I have learnt since the

the university which has produced many luminaries from its unlikely home in the wasteland of southern Chicago.

Bloom's theme was not new. It appeared amid a tide of polemics and scholarly reports lambasting the failure of schools and universities to impart a basic culture. President Reagan has himself been inveighing against "value-free education".

But *The Closing of the American Mind* latched on to the national psyche. It galvanized the debate on education and forced plans for reform high on the agenda of the presidential contenders. It also made a lot of money for Bloom, the Indianapolis-born son of social workers.

His thesis is simple. The universities and schools have been swamped with intellectual laziness bred from the Sixties' doctrines that everything is relative and all values are equal. "Cafeteria curricula" and an obsession with openness and equality are producing a generation of Americans bereft of civilization and ignorant of their own culture.

"Practically all that young Americans have today is an insubstantial awareness that there are many cultures, accompanied by a saccharine moral drawn from that awareness. We should all get along. Why fight?" Young Americans are just too intent on being nice, he says in the book.

Bloom believes in the Great Books. Only by knowing Shakespeare and Plato and the other classics can a person acquire an understanding of humanity and the values that his ancestors struggled for. The villain is the Sixties generation, now effectively running the education business, and in turn the theories of Nietzsche, Marx and their other sources of inspiration.

The most notorious image from his book is his portrait of a 13-year-old doing his homework to the "masturbational fantasies" of rock music on his personal stereo, while ignorantly "enjoying the liberties hard won over centuries by the alliance of philosophic genius and political heroism".

Images like that, and a compar-



Reactionary or seer? "You cannot talk about Chaucer without somebody saying: what about the women's perspective?" says Allan Bloom

son between the Nuremberg rallies and the Woodstock pop festival, have not won him friends. Bloom's unrelenting Sixties-bashing sounds like the screeching of an ageing parent wrapped in a Roman toga, one prominent critic says.

But Bloom ripostes that his argument is with the teachers, not the pupils. "It's written in a tone of pity for kids who are going to be left as cave dwellers," he says with a sigh. Children want to learn, but "what we see now is teachers who don't know anything".

Britain, Bloom allows in passing, has not gone as far. "The British have one saving grace, and it's the only country in the West that has it — the continuing love affair with Shakespeare."

Plenty of material has emerged over the past year or two to back Bloom's gloomy views of American youth. Although in some states "old" subjects such as history and geography have been

reintroduced, there are calls from both right and left for a core curriculum of basic subjects. Comparisons are being constantly made with Japan, where, the experts say, students work harder and learn far more both in the arts and sciences than in America.

One study, *What Do Our 17-year-olds Know?*, based on national testing, found fewer than a third knew in what half-century the American Civil War took place and only 43 per cent had any idea why Senator Joseph McCarthy was famous.

Other polls found a decline in reading skills and a jump in illiteracy among high-school leavers. A third of all college beginners could not find Vietnam on a map and a sizeable number believed that that war came before the Second World War.

This is the kind of ignorance that was addressed by another of last year's best-selling books, *Cultural Literacy* by E.D. Hirsch. The

book's big draw was a glossary of 4,500 words, phrases and dates, that Hirsch and his colleagues at the University of Virginia drew up as a minimum body of knowledge which should be possessed by the educated citizen.

Bloom does not like the idea of lists. The only hope is for a new spirit in the universities, he says. America has 3,000 higher education institutions, employing more workers than the farming industry. "They have all the resources. The problem is that they have no intellectual vision."

Unlike Europeans, with their more intense secondary schooling, Americans have traditionally acquired their broad culture from compulsory humanities courses in the first two years of college. Last month a survey, conducted by the American Council on Education for the past two decades, suggested that more first-year students than ever believe that they have gone to university to be able to make more

money later. "To develop a meaningful philosophy of life", the category that came top in the early 1970s, was ranked lowest.

While some educators blame the materialist mood of 1980s America, Bloom and his allies accuse the university faculties. He is scathing in his ridicule of the current preoccupation with minority rights and cultural prejudice in the study of literature and history.

"You can't talk about Chaucer without someone saying: 'What about the women's perspective?' What about the Third World perspective?" It's very hard for people outside to believe how extreme this has become.

In fact, the issue has just leapt from academic debate into the newspaper headlines. Stanford University has become embroiled in controversy over a decision to drop its compulsory beginners' course of Western culture, because staff denounced it as propagating "European-Western and male bias" and "sexist and racist stereotypes".

A new curriculum called "culture, ideas, and values" is designed to get away from "the white male view of history". To Bloom

and his allies, this is just the sort of folly they are lamenting.

"The muses never sang to the poets about liberated women," he notes in his book. In a similar vein, a widely quoted remark by Bellow — "Who is the Tolstoy of the Zulus? The Proust of the Papuans?" — has sparked tirades in learned journals.

In a withering account of the hijacking of the old "white, male curriculum", *The Wall Street Journal* this month said Stanford was in fact only following the trend towards looking for "relevance" in the humanities. The *Journal's* main target was Duke University, where Shakespeare is taught as a "vehicle to illuminate the way 17th-century society misreated women; the

On teachers...

'They have all the resources. The problem is that they have no intellectual vision'

working class and minorities", and where students study Zane Grey, *The Godfather* and comic books.

Much of academia is denouncing Bloom and his brethren as elitist and anti-democratic. Benjamin Barber, of Rutgers University, lampooned him in this month's *Harpers* as a cantankerous despot. He "often seems like a slightly paranoid Tocqueville who finds himself inexplicably residing in the state of Illinois among barbarians he both worships and despises".

Bloom dismisses this as nonsense and says he savours the irony of being pilloried as "un-American" by left wing intellectuals.

The critics are also homing in on what they say is Bloom's obsession with the 1969 occupation of Cornell University, where he then taught, by gun-toting students demanding changes in the curriculum.

Leaning back in his black leather chair in his bachelor's flat, Bloom is contemptuous. "I wasn't in the least upset about Cornell," he says. He pulls out a yellowing Cornell yearbook to show dramatic pictures of the event. The violence of the heady Sixties may seem like a lost era, he says, but the same mentality still holds sway in the universities.

The only hope, according to Bloom, is for a rebirth of a spirit of real inquiry in a quiet corner of academia.

On academia...

'There is an unprecedented attack on Reason going on in the universities'

book that there is an unprecedented attack on Reason going on in the universities.

An elegant diatribe subtitled "How higher education has failed democracy and impoverished the souls of today's students", Bloom's 350-page book was the publishing phenomenon of 1987. It topped the best seller lists for six months, put Chicago University on the map again and set people wondering if its very success contradicted his argument that Americans have lost interest in knowledge.

Bloom was persuaded to develop his ideas by the novelist Saul Bellow, his colleague at the Committee on Social Thought, a venerated graduate department at



What do they know? What should they know? *The Times* enters the education debate tomorrow with some answers

Full points for commas

NEW WORDS FOR OLD

Philip Howard

He's lost a comma for his letter to *The Times*!



We write too fast in the daily press. Of course we try hard to get things right: accurate, grammatical, logical, arresting, spelled correctly, easily intelligible, grabbing the attention of the commuter on the Blessed Circle Line (running late as usual because of some nameless incident at Farringdon, or was it Barbican?) so that she carries on reading in spite of the fact that she is wedged in so tight between alien bodies that her feet only touch the ground when the driver cowboys over points.

But inevitably we fail sometimes. I am amazed that we usually get it right. Before seizing pen to point out some piffling error to the Editor, remember that what you have been looking at in a proper paper such as *The Times* consists of as many words as are in three novels of average length, written, subbed, designed, cut to fit exactly, the jigsaw, standfirmed, headlined, printed, and delivered on to your breakfast table in 12 hours flat. It is a daily miracle.

Writing under pressure produces illogicalities. We know what we mean. But the way we arrange and punctuate the words produces a different effect. For example, the best newspaper the other day published the remarkable assertion: "No Chinese dinner is complete without generous measures of cognac — usually the pricier grades costing £50 a bottle." Come, come, sir. There must surely be some skint peasants in the remotest parts of that vast country who cannot be sure of a regular supply of even the cheaper grades.

Mind you, illogicalities and punctuational misdirections can happen in works that take decades rather than hours to produce. Take Pevsner's *Cambridgeshire*, admirable guide to an endearing if chilly county, on the majestic topic of King's College Chapel: "The foundation stone of the chapel was laid on 25 July 1446. It is 289 ft long, 94 ft high (interior height 80 ft), and 40 ft wide." Well, I see what he means. I am aware that Henry VI left us a better legacy than most monarchs. But, nevertheless, some foundation stone!

Notice in the Pevsner quotation that comma before

the "and". It comes down on one side in the teasing question of commas in enumeration. The question is: when you have a list of things, do you punctuate, A, B and C, with the "and" standing in for a comma, or do you bung in a comma anyway and write A, B, and C?

This may seem a piffling matter in a world that must have more important things to worry about. But that comma or the lack of it can just occasionally make a difference to the sense. Punctuation was made for man, not man for punctuation. We ought to make the convention help rather than hinder us.

I wrote back liberally (and

no doubt wetly) that if your first clause went on for so long breath, as there, you might as well insert a comma to allow the reader a breathing space. This follows the Renaissance style of punctuation, imitating the style of Latin writers, by using punctuation to mark rhythmical, or rhetorical, or

dramatic, or elocutionary pauses. English, being an uninflected language, needs punctuation to show the grammar, logic, and construction of a sentence.

Ergo, (comma I think, don't you, but then I am a heavy comma-man?) when two short things are linked by an "and" the comma is otiose. "A and B." Sic. When two long clauses are linked by an "and", I incline towards sticking in a comma at the end of the first clause in order to let the reader know that she or he has come to the end of a section, thank the Pope and Aldus Manutius. When more than two things are listed, I should always put in a comma before the "and". A, B, and C. This is to differentiate the items on your list. It is OK if they are all similar items. *The Times*, *The Guardian* and *The Independent*. Even without the comma we can see what you are on about, old thing. But *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, and *The Morning Post and Advertiser* with the comma to indicate that the last is one rag not two. Sainsbury's, Tesco's, and Marks, and Spencer's? They drank coffee, rum, vodka, vintage port, and tea. We need the comma to show that the vintage applies to the port but not to the tea. That is what I think. But punctuation belongs to all of us. Not to put too fine a point on it, if you can devise a more useful system for your purposes, stick to it, baby.

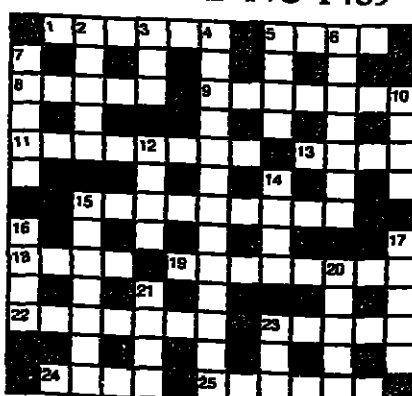
CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1489

ACROSS

- 1 Utterance (6)
- 5 Ancient North Briton (4)
- 8 BBC 2 arts programme (5)
- 9 Lower back pain (7)
- 11 Jazz woodwind (8)
- 13 Baking sheet (4)
- 15 Sound study (9)
- 18 Aesthete (4)
- 19 Red pickling root (8)
- 22 Organic fertilizer (7)
- 23 Trifling (5)
- 24 Jealousy (4)
- 25 Bridge game (6)

DOWN

- 2 Virgin's statue (5)
- 3 Age (3)
- 4 Fairground spiral (6-7)
- 5 Stately display (4)
- 6 Soft suede (7)
- 7 Process group (5)
- 10 Sole (4)
- 12 Carved image (4)
- 14 Tumult (4)
- 15 Belly (7)
- 16 Body powder (4)
- 17 Bonded corsets (5)
- 20 Outside normal (5)
- 21 Conservative (4)
- 23 Local (3)



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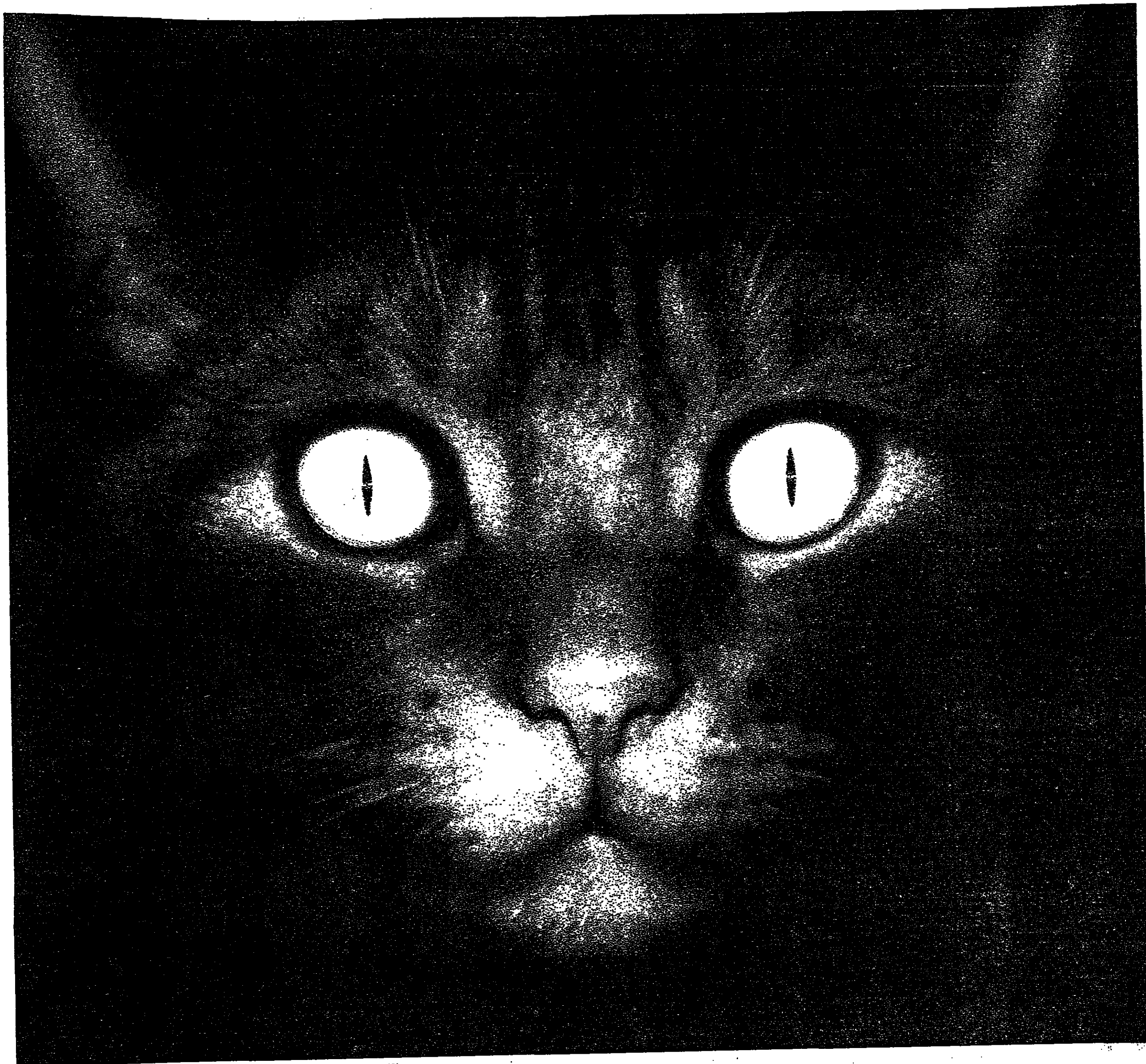
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REAL POTENTIAL. SOMETIMES IT STARES YOU RIGHT IN THE FACE.

Percy Shaw wondered what had happened to Halifax.

If the fog got any worse, he'd have to park his Austin Seven and spend the rest of the night on the moors.

Percy put more pressure on the pedal. Without warning two intense beads of light shot through the gloom. He stood on the brake as a fence resembling fractured crucifixes loomed large in the windscreen. The car lurched mercifully to a halt, stopping short of a deep gorge.

Yards away, the two beads of light blinked. Their owner, a mature tabby, padded off into the night.

'Cat's Eyes', as a road safety concept, was dramatically born that evening in 1933.

Percy Shaw used the principle to develop an inexpensive, power-free, self-cleaning, indestructible lifesaver.

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Potential, it seems, is sometimes just waiting to be realised. In one case at least, it happens to be in a new development area. Trafford Park, Greater Manchester.

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A BAD DEAL

It is hard to accept the Prime Minister's assertion that the EEC deal she struck in Brussels was not a fudge. She came closer to the mark when she said that it was "not too bad". It is nearer still to the truth to call it a bad deal.

European farmers will continue over-producing cereals. Total spending on agriculture will continue rising. Britain's net contribution will increase.

The best that can be said in favour of it is that over-production will be discouraged to some extent by automatic price cuts, a limit has been placed on the rate of increase of agricultural spending, and that the rebate system has been preserved. It is probable that no better deal could have been obtained last Friday and that no other British leader could have done as well.

That is not the point. The question is whether Mrs Thatcher was right to settle at Brussels at all, when she could have held out until the next European Council meeting at Hanover in June.

It was always obvious that no deal satisfactory to Britain could be achieved at Brussels because of impending elections in France and Germany. Until late on Friday night a wholly predictable (and desirable) deadlock seemed about to take place. Suddenly a weary Mrs Thatcher emerged with a deal which European officials described as "historic".

It is hard to believe that a politician as experienced as Mrs Thatcher would fall for the oldest trick in the EEC book. The use of exhaustion to wear down obstinate leaders is as old as the European Community. But it is hard to find another interpretation for her change of heart.

Her implied explanation that she compromised for the good of Europe does not make sense. It is fallacious to argue that the EEC's goal of achieving a genuine Common Market by 1992 would have been in danger if she had held out until June. It will now be four

years before Britain has another chance to attempt fundamental reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.

What then will be the results in the meantime? We can welcome the fact that agriculture ministers will no longer have the opportunity to circumvent price reductions designed to discourage production. In 1985 cereals production reached the agreed limit and should have triggered automatic price cuts, but the Germans used their veto to prevent this happening. In future the ceiling figure for each product will be legally binding.

The very high upper limit which has been set for cereals (160 million tonnes, against 155 million demanded by Britain) is a deeply unwelcome blow - only a little softened by the fact that, if this year's production reaches 167 million as expected, an automatic price cut of three percent will take effect, and that this could be followed by further cuts in subsequent years.

Much has been made of the fact that under the deal agriculture will decline as a percentage of total Community spending from 70 to 50 percent. This is a specious argument. It arises mainly from the vast increase (80 percent initially, rising to 100 percent) in the "structural funds" used to redistribute wealth from the rich northern countries to the poorer southern ones. Take out this element and the real reduction in the proportion of the budget absorbed by agriculture is much smaller: down from 70 percent to 60 percent.

Britain's budget rebate will continue to be two-thirds of the difference between what we pay to Brussels and what we receive from it. This will be two-thirds of an increasing gap. While the rebate will become larger, so will our net contribution. The Community summit has thrown away a chance to allow its strongest leader to push it towards genuine reform, and has paid Britain to keep quiet - a bad deal, indeed.

PLAYERS FOR POWER

Mr Cecil Parkinson's plans to restructure the electricity supply industry for privatization have reached the final, most sensitive phase when personalities and political calculation increasingly overlay the practical industrial issues. To grapple with this endgame, the Energy Secretary has retired into a Spring purdah usually reserved for his Cabinet colleague, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

He has equally hard choices to make. Complex, interlocking questions have been raised about competition and prices, regulation and the security of supply, the future of nuclear power and the coal industry. The Energy Secretary already knows that his electricity White Paper for England and Wales (now scheduled to follow swiftly after Mr Lawson's Budget) will disappoint many of the competing lobbies while completely satisfying none.

Mr Parkinson started with two political imperatives. One is that public dissatisfaction with the privatized British Telecom - and industry complaints about the scarcely-regulated monopoly of British Gas - obliged him to show that there will be real competition in electricity after privatization. The other is that he must not undermine the Prime Minister's drive to build a new family of nuclear power stations.

These priorities conflict. Competition in the conventional sense is only practical in the generating side of the industry. Yet the more the Central Electricity Generating Board is fragmented to ensure competition, the less attractive it will be for privatized companies to build nuclear power stations.

The City does not like the high capital costs, perceived risks and long planning delays. And the smaller the companies that emerge, and the tougher the competition, the more will investors require high returns that rule out the costly long-term investment in nuclear power.

Any attempt to write an obligation to build nuclear stations into legislation would be to give a powerful weapon to the anti-nuclear lobby. Mr Parkinson, therefore, needs a continuing CEGB big enough in the market to take the risks of nuclear power for the ultimate benefit of low running costs. He would also like to retain the services of Lord Marshall of Goring, the charismatic former head of the Atomic Energy Authority, called to the CEGB by Mrs Thatcher to push through the nuclear programme.

The lobbying has been fierce. Mr Parkinson has needed all his ingenuity to dampen Lord Marshall's efforts among backbenchers to retain the CEGB and keep its control of the national transmission grid intact.

In the early days after the election, the

campaign for increased competition made all the running, deftly orchestrated by the Centre for Policy Studies. Its members still have Mr Parkinson's ear, but lost their usefulness as allies when it became clear that each campaigner had a quite different vision of the competitive future.

The Electricity Council, which brings together the competing interests of the area distribution boards and the CEGB, preferred a monolithic national organization to be retained. Since this was ruled out from the start, it has adopted an agnostic stance. This has been convenient to Mr Parkinson - except that it left the field open to the CEGB which has relentlessly driven home its two most highly sensitive points.

The first of these is that separating the grid from the power stations might risk the lights going out. The second is that splitting the CEGB into competing units would raise rather than lower prices to the consumer.

Mr Parkinson appears to have fielded firm against the first line of attack. He has been convinced that separating transmission from the CEGB is a minimum necessity for competition. That alone required determination. Within Lord Marshall's case to the Prime Minister was the claim that only close co-ordination of the national grid and the power stations kept the lights on during the coal strike.

More compromise was needed in restructuring the CEGB's generating business. The Energy Secretary is thought to have opted to separate a group of the CEGB's coal stations as a base for one or more new competitors, while keeping most of it intact. Although the CEGB chairman swiftly appealed to 10 Downing Street, Mr Parkinson may have correctly calculated that this package will just avoid a damaging resignation - and safeguard the future of nuclear power.

Important details about the size and scope of the competitor or competitors are still open to negotiation - and Mr Parkinson should push for the most substantial competitive rivals he can. Even then, he will find that the struggle is not over.

His opponents point out that the CEGB supplies domestic and commercial users with some of the cheapest electricity in the world, and argue that competition will have the perverse effect of raising prices. Part of his reply has to be that freedom to import cheap coal will act to keep prices down. He may be relieved to note that this should switch the battleground of the future to the more familiar parts of his command, the frontier with Mr Arthur Scargill.

This shackle of censorship may be compared by some to the recent decision to publish a simplified edition of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* for very young readers, excising all reference to Mr Rabbit Senior's demise in Mrs McGregor's pie. It is surely a great deal worse. At least the Potter original enjoys simultaneous publication in its full form. The Bowdlerised Dolittle books will become the only available version. Generations of readers will be misled.

Such self-assumed moral and intellectual superiority, born of a current political fashion, visits an intolerable impertinence on the original authors, and an even greater one on the potential readers. It credits today's young with neither intelligence nor perception.

Children in Britain and the United States live in sufficiently multi-racial societies to know for themselves each other's racial characteristics. They do not need self-appointed censors. If parents or teachers do not like the Dr Dolittle stories, they are not part of Mr Baker's core curriculum. All they need do is not read them.

NT challenge to Arts Council

From the Director of the National Theatre

Sir, What are the Arts Council's criteria when it cuts its cake? I think we should be told. Most people might think that a fair share would go to those who can point to success. Not so. In this, the council is out of step with today's economic thinking, of which Mrs Thatcher is High Priestess.

This week, despite the minister's cash boost in November, the council announced below-normal increases to all four national companies - and the National Theatre fared worst (report, February 10).

Why? We play to big audiences. We have won more awards than any other company. We have - uniquely - streamlined our backstage operation. Over three years we have doubled our sponsorship money and increased by a third our self-earned income (it is now £1.08 to every £1 of subsidy).

The cumulative effect of grants regularly below inflation, and our duty to put our building into decent repair after 11 years' hard use, will inevitably land us, for the first time in the post-war era, with a deficit. We are the Royal Opera House, the Royal Shakespeare Company and the English National Opera.

This summer I leave the NT as its director, to be succeeded by Richard Eyre and David Aukin. They are richly talented and deeply committed men. I hope the Arts Council treats them more generously. As things are, I accuse the council of failing its principal clients.

The time that I have spent establishing the National Theatre on the South Bank has been the most exciting, invigorating, and in some ways the most satisfying of my life. What we have done is, I think and hope, very considerable. But we have achieved it more in spite of than because of the Arts Council.

Yours sincerely,
PETER HALL, Director,
National Theatre,
South Bank SE1,
February 12.

Universities' future

From Professor A. R. Fersht, FRS

Sir, "No one thinks Rutgers, in New Jersey, should age Princeton", writes Annon (February 3) in defence of reducing our universities to just a dozen elite research institutions. But the citizens of New Jersey have already contradicted Annon. They voted over two years ago in a local proposition to raise a \$100 million bond for research activities in their state.

The bulk of this was used to build and now run a Centre for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine at Rutgers. Only a small amount was given to Princeton. Rutgers has recruited outstanding scientists and is a thriving and dynamic institution.

First-rate research is being performed at a host of universities in the USA whose names are probably unknown to our policy-makers. From Illinois to Texas, and from New York to California, money is being poured into research. Why? Because individuals and states are proud of their universities and know that science and technology are the source of America's industrial wealth.

This attitude is led by the Reagan Administration, which is far from being philistine and recognizes that industrial developments spring from university research. There are fine liberal arts colleges in the USA that are purely teaching institutions. But they are a luxury made possible by the existence of a vast research base.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. FERSHT,
Imperial College of Science and Technology,
Department of Chemistry,
South Kensington, SW7.

Pleasures to come

From Mr P. M. Peabody

Sir, The school secretary, using an old-fashioned wooden handled dip pen, has just completed the school register. It is a work of posterity. I wonder whether the floppy disc will give future historians the same aesthetic pleasure. Yours truly,
PHILIP PEABODY, Master,
Wells Cathedral Junior School,
7 The Liberty,
Wells, Somerset,
February 9.

Abolition of ILEA

From Mr S. McBride

Sir, Before you allow your uncritical enthusiasm for the policies of political vendetta practised by some sections of the Conservative Party to get the better of you, it might be as well to reconsider the arguments advanced in your leading article of February 5, "No tears for ILEA" (sic). These would have led most rational people to the conclusion that the ILEA should be retained rather than the future of London's schools should lie in "opting out".

If there is any validity in the dubious concept of a mandate derived from an all-embracing manifesto then it is surely the current administration of the ILEA that has an overwhelming mandate for its policies.

As far as administrative efficiency goes, the ILEA is streets ahead of most of the London boroughs. Have no lessons been learned from the abolition of the GLC? Has anybody attempted to

Concern on extension of remand

From Mrs Susanne Dell and Professor Graham Zellik

Sir, In 1986, the Home Office proposed that the power of magistrates to remand untried defendants in custody should be increased from the present maximum of eight days at a time to a maximum of 28 days. Widespread criticism of the proposal centred on the loss of civil liberties, and on the modesty of the savings to be expected from the change, savings likely to be outweighed by the costs of a larger prison population.

The Home Office eventually conceded that there was a danger of the scheme leading to less bail and longer remands. Ministers therefore announced that before it was introduced nationwide, an experiment would be conducted in a few areas in order to see what the effects would be of enabling magistrates to remand defendants in custody for up to 28 days at a time. No details of the proposed experiment have been vouchsafed.

There are major objections to what is proposed. First is the objection of principle. Ministers claim their experimental approach to be a well tried, non-controversial one. But no previous experiment has deprived one group of citizens of rights which all others continue to enjoy. Equality before the law is a basic principle of the judicial system; to render some defendants unequal in the interests of experiment would be a totally unprecedented departure.

Secondly, there is the practical objection that an experiment will not yield the information sought. Ministers have claimed that if

remands in the experimental courts do not become "unduly" prolonged, then the 28-day scheme could be safely introduced nationally.

That would be a dangerous and unwarranted assumption. The selected courts will know that they are being closely monitored, and it will be impossible to generalise from what they do, to what magistrates nationally would do if the law were changed. Thus an experiment will not be able to provide evidence that could warrant the general abolition of the eight-day rule.

Finally, there must be grave concern that clause 139 of the Criminal Justice Bill is drafted so as to allow much more than an experiment. Indeed, the Bill makes no mention of an experiment. It simply confers on the Home Secretary the power to abolish, by statutory instrument, defendants' right to weekly court appearances in any area or type of legal proceedings. Thus, on the basis of no more than an affirmative resolution in Parliament, the Home Secretary is enabled to abolish the eight-day rule piecemeal or nationwide.

The Commons committee on the Bill is now beginning its work. It should be aware that the Government is proposing a massive erosion of civil liberties which should be opposed on grounds both of principle and practicality. Yours faithfully,
SUSANNE DELL,
GRAHAM ZELLIK,
4 Reynolds Close, NW11,
February 9.

A trial for tagging

From the Director of the Howard League

Sir, Your report (February 9) that the Government is considering introducing the electronic tag for young offenders covered the serious objections to this idea. The article correctly pointed out that frequent technical breakdowns lead to a waste of professional staff time, that the tag is expensive to set up and administer, and that it is only a negative alternative to the many community-based sanctions we already have available. It was, therefore, particularly disappointing to see your leader the following day supporting the introduction of tags.

Everyone agrees that we are sending too many people to prison, both to await trial and to serve sentences for non-violent offences. This apparently inexorable increase in the British prison population has become a part of the crime problem and is not a solution to it.

The electronic tag is but a diversion away from consideration of the profound dilemma

of effective crime prevention and the sensible management of offenders. Tagging as a sentence of the court will not contribute towards reducing prison populations as it would be used with those who would otherwise not face prison, and will do little or nothing towards crime reduction.

The debate must be centred around crime prevention and the protection of citizens, as well as humane management of offenders designed to minimise re-offending. Ministers would make better use of their time if they listened to the many constructive ideas aimed at the steady reduction in the use of penal incarceration and the diversion of resources to crime prevention.

Electronic tags are an irrelevancy. The penal crisis should be faced honestly. The philosophical and practical challenges of dealing with crime must not be evaded by superficial tricks and gimmicks. Yours faithfully,
FRANCES CROOK, Director,
The Howard League for Penal Reform,
322 Kennington Park Road, SE11,
February 10.

Church and State

From the Chaplain of Wadham College, Oxford

Sir, Clifford Longley (February 1) writes that the Church of England "belongs to everyone, not just to a minority defined as Anglicans" and that parliamentary control stands for this principle. Earlier he states, more factually, that "it is relatively easy for a small group of MPs to arrange an ambush in the lobbies of the House of Commons late at night, to defeat legislation forwarded to Parliament by the General Synod."

I cannot see how the realities of House of Commons politics, so described, can serve the principle of Establishment, so defined. I should have thought that any observer of the Synod's debates and decisions would say that it is the members of the General Synod, rather than the late-night ambushers of Parliament, who

believe in the principle that "the Church of England belongs to everyone".

Should we therefore advocate disestablishment? No, merely common sense. By Acts of Parliament in 1921 and 1925 the Established Church of Scotland was guaranteed its status as a national church, while the General Assembly was given freedom from parliamentary control in matters of its faith and order. In Scotland this has proved to be a satisfactory way of "establishing" the principle that the Church "belongs to everyone" and, at the same time, of enabling the Church to make the decisions and changes it needs to put that principle into practice. Why should such a course not be followed in England?

Yours faithfully,
IAN PATON, Chaplain,
Wadham College, Oxford,
February 1.

Warship base

From Captain P. R. D. Kimm, RN (ret)

Sir, While the historian in me is delighted to read the latest ideas for preserving Britain's maritime heritage (January 29, February 5), the rest of me is much more in tune with Mr P. J. Freeman's worries (January 28) about the preservation of Britain's maritime present.

It is an interesting experience nowadays to walk out of Portsmouth Harbour railway station. Where once the masts, radar arrays and upper-works of the surface fleet immediately caught the eye, now one's view is dominated by the magnificent but mid-19th-century iron frigate Warrior with, beyond her, the familiar but

even more historic masts and yards of HMS Victory.

The rest, admittedly, is not by any means silent; but there is no doubt that the past makes a far greater visual impact than the present on "the owners" (as the Navy rightly calls the taxpayers) as the latter arrive by rail in Britain's premier naval port; and should this relative impression tend to put yet further to the back of their minds the truth that 98 per cent of their imports and exports continue to be carried by sea, it would be a pity.

Yours faithfully,
PETER KIMM,
69 New Brighton Road,
Emsworth, Hampshire.

Short in the tooth?

From Mrs Susan Coidan

Sir, Re Mr Henry Galy's letter of February 4 and his tooth problem, I, too, have encountered this discrepancy in prices. I solved it by emphasising that fairs find it much easier to carry a small 20p coin per tooth than a large, cumbersome £1 coin.

This has been accepted by my six-year-old, after surreptitious checking in various books containing pictures of fairs. He has concluded that it is smallness of stature and not meanness of spirit that causes the difference.

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN COIDAN,
191 Newhey Road,
Newhey,
Rochdale, Lancashire.

From Mr Christopher Nutt
Sir, Your correspondent complains of large local variations in payments for milk teeth. This is surely a case for the Office of Fair Trading.
Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER NUTT,
704 Frobius House,
Dolphin Square, SW1.

With marriage much in mind

From the Director of the Marriage Research Centre

Sir, *The Times* is to be applauded for its insightful leader, "Mind over marriage" (February 6). Valentine's Day comes once a year and focuses our minds on marriage, but only as an intensely private and personal matter. Its public significance is overlooked. Your leader rightly draws attention to that public significance, and the need for research into it.

Research can never produce the formula for a successful marriage, but it can deepen our understanding of the personal commitment which lies at the heart of marriage and define those factors, both internal and external, which appear to erode it.

How can research findings help marriage? They should not be seen solely as the foundation for effective marriage preparation; they can also be a crucial factor in the provision of support for existing marriages, by indicating areas of special vulnerability in any couple.

The Marriage Research Centre is fortunate in having both research and therapeutic orientations. We are currently channeling the research findings from our recent study of marriage in their early years into a practical training programme for health visitors, GPs, and others who have direct access to all young families.

This translation of research into practical action underpins any effective preparation for marriage and its support which is so urgently needed.

Yours faithfully,
J. DOMINIAN, Director,
Marriage Research Centre,
Central Middlesex Hospital,
Acton Lane, NW10,
February 10.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 15 1869

Our Special Correspondent in Madrid casts a rather ironic eye over the plight of Spanish high society in the aftermath of the revolution of 1968 in which Queen Isabella II was dethroned. Marshal Juan Prim (1814-1870), soldier and politician, played a prominent part in the revolution although earlier he had been a supporter of the Queen.

SOCIETY IN SPAIN.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT: MADRID, FEB 10.

When Londoners in September observe that "there is nobody in town," they do not, of course, mean to assert that there are not some 3,000,000 people left in the place. In the same manner, it must not be taken for granted that Madrid is now empty simply because its "Grandees" (la Grandeza), or some half-dozen or half-score of its grandees, have departed. Revolution is a scourge of society. Whenever a Provisional Government, a King, citizen, or a Sovereign nation comes in, there "the cream of the cream" turn sour; aristocracy either goes on its travels or hides out of sight and pours. We could not expect Madrid or Spain to be an exception to the rule. Since "Topeka at Cadiz raised the cry 'Long live Spain with honour!'" a good many have taken it into their heads that it was not consistent with honour to abide in Spain. A few of them may have left the Madrid paving-stones too hot - as I find them too cruelly hot - under their feet. Many more may have given way to imaginary fears, and fled when there were none to pursue...

Well, of these well-born, and blue-veined, and more or less long-time fugitives not a few began to yearn for the Prado and the Puerta del Sol. They have found the Tuñerías staff, the Hôtel de Ville commonplace, the Boulevard des Capucines, the Pavillon de Rohan with narrower ante-chambers than the Palace in the Plaza de Oriente; and, one by one or in flocks, they have taken places in the train for Bayonne, whence, with another flock already on the wing, they have been for some time meditating, and are no effecting the final flight which will bring them back to the lingering warmth of their native nests.

It must not be thought, however, that, true as they are to their country, these emigrants will ever reconcile themselves to the Revolution. No; they come under protest. They say their lives and property are at Prim's discretion; but they do not shake hands with Prim; they ignore him. They render unto the Revolution the things that are the Revolution's and unto society the things that are society's. The Provisional Government, or the Cortes, may legislate for the country, but it is they alone who rule "the world." Madrid shall have its Faubourg de San Germain. There will always be the *salon* of some dowager countess, or the quinta or suburban villa of some retired Chamberlain, into which none but *fondeuses*, their half-painted cavaliers, and their beetle-browed father confessors. There the *Gorda* will be taken in and the *Siglo* discussed...



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 14: Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Sir John Grandy had the honour of being received by The Queen at Windsor Castle this afternoon and took leave upon relinquishing his appointment as Constable and Governor, Windsor Castle, when Her Majesty invested him with the insignia of a Knight, Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 13: The Queen was represented by Commander Hon. John Fremantle (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire) at the Memorial Service for Major John Young (formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire) which was held in the Church of St Paul and St Andrew, Buckingham this afternoon.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 13: The Duke and Duchess of Kent this afternoon attended a Service of Prayer and Dedication in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, following the Civil Marriage of the Earl and Countess of St Andrews.

Birthdays today

Sir Harold Bealey, diplomat, 79; Sir William Bentley, diplomat, 61; Miss Claire Bloom, actress, 57; Sir Stephen Brown, former chairman, Stone-Plant Industries, 82; Sir Arthur de la Mare, diplomat, 74; Mr Justice Drake, 65; Mr Frank Dunlop, director, Edinburgh International Festival, 61; the Countess of Dysart, 74; Mr Paul Ferris, author, 59; Mr Gerald Harper, actor and broadcaster, 59; the Earl of Jersey, 78; Miss Diana Jones, 38; the Earl of Mar and Kellie, 67; Sir Richard O'Brien, former chairman, Manpower Services Commission, 68; Miss Jane Seymour, actress, 37; Miss Clare Short, MP, 42; Sir Adrian Swire, chairman, John Swire and Sons, 66; Sir George Taylor, 64; Dr G. Templeman, former vice-chancellor, University of Kent at Canterbury, 74; the Right Rev R.W. Woods, former Bishop of Worcester, 74.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales will open the Community Centre for Addiction, Slade Road, Birmingham, at 11.00; and the Children's Society's Youth Link project at 98 Church Hill Road, Handsworth, at 12.15.

Memorial concert

Senor A. Segovia
A memorial concert for Senor Andres Segovia was held on Saturday in Birmingham Cathedral. Mr Arthur Solomon and Miss Brenda Tomlinson, accompanied by Mr Barry Draycott, organ, and conducted by Miss Heather Wastie sang a Welsh folk song mass by Professor Ian Parrott. Miss Frances Griffin and Mr Leo Turner, guitar, and Mr Barry Draycott gave the first performance of *A Fantasia of Themes by Segovia*. Mr Carlos Bonell, guitar, played two preludes by Villa-Lobos and *Trovidia* by Granados.

Marriages

Captain W. Molesworth-St Aubyn
and Miss C.M. Tozier
The marriage took place on Saturday at St George's, Hanover Square, of Captain William Molesworth-St Aubyn, The Royal Green Jackets, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Arscott and Lady Molesworth-St Aubyn, of Pencarrow, Bodmin, Cornwall, to Miss Carolyn Tozier, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs William A. Tozier, of Shawfield Street, London, SW3. The Rev W.M. Atkins officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Jenna Argent, Fiona Featherston, Olivia Derby, Melissa Conant, the Hon Alexandra Parker, James Fishwick, Patrick Shuttworth, Miss Katrina Tozier, and Miss Emma Molesworth-St Aubyn. Captain R.P. Winsor, The Royal Green Jackets, was best man.

A reception was held at Claridge's hotel and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr A.D. Robinson
and Miss H.A. Turner
The marriage took place at St Mary's Church, Badsword, Yorkshire, on February 14, 1988, between Mr A.D. Robinson, and Miss H.A. Turner.

The bride was attended by Miss C. Turner, Miss C. Boyle, Miss K. Clarke and Miss L.J. Henry. Mr Tim Fell was best man.

The honeymoon is being spent in Mauritius and the Seychelles.

Clifford Longley

When you wish upon a fading star

The address of Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, to the General Synod last week was met by synod members with a series of polite questions on specific matters, with not much response to his main point: a plea that the churches should "speak and insist, and insist again, on the individual standards which are the foundation of a healthy society."

There were two reasons for this. In the first place, the average synod member probably does not regard the Government as its best ally in the Christianization of British society. In the second, Mr Hurd leaped from the diagnostic to the prescriptive in one move, jumping over all the difficult questions, theological, sociological and practical, which come in between.

It was almost as if he was inviting them to convert the country back to the Christian faith, which, when addressed to a Christian church, is virtually a tautology. There is presumably nothing they would wish for more, but they have been frustrated and baffled for half a century in trying to do it.

Most ideas which come before the synod have some evangelistic edge to them, and they are argued for or against in terms of their help or hindrance to the church's mission in society. It was not as if he was suggesting something new they had not already thought of.

Nevertheless it is unlikely Mr Hurd was being naive. He was speaking as the Government minister responsible for public policy against crime, and what he was telling the synod is just what police officers of all ranks probably say to him every day of the week.

It is that many of the people who pass through their hands, particularly those who are young and violent, are bereft of any idea of the difference between right and wrong. They are not so much immoral as amoral. In the first instance the average copper on the beat would probably say he blamed their parents; but behind them stands society and all its institutions, especially those institu-

tions which "represent" morality, the churches.

He referred to a text written 40 years ago by Sir David Livingstone in *Education for a World Adrift*: "The philosophy of life, the standards by which the Victorians in earlier ages were governed, have broken down. We are left with traditions and habits of conduct inherited from them, as the earth may for a time still receive light from an extinct star. But that light will not continue to shine, nor can these habits and traditions long survive the beliefs from which they grew. Those who reject Christian beliefs cannot count on keeping Christian morals."

The direction in which Mr Hurd's thought was travelling, if pursued further than he publicly took it, leads to quite radical conclusions about contemporary culture. The objection to his suggested remedy, that the churches should preach morality all the harder, is not that it is wrong but that it does not go deep enough. It could only work as a day of execution, not a permanent reversal of the trend. For it seems to treat Christian morality as if it was a thing on its own, separate from religious belief.

It is not an uncommon view; but it is the very view Livingstone was attacking. He was writing when it was still fashionable for people to use "Christian" as shorthand for decency and morality, and to say they were Christian in matters of morals, even if uncertain or agnostic in matters of doctrine. But in Livingstone's example, Christian morality is the dying planet, Christian faith the dead star. If the latter becomes extinct, the former will continue to live for a while in the afterglow, but will gradually become extinct too.

It is not for the Home Secretary to declare in the name of the British Government, however, that the revival of Christian belief is essential for the survival of civilization in Britain; but it must have been the conclusion he wanted others to draw from his remarks.

Far from being naive, he was being very subtle. But if this is the real remedy for the crime wave he was trying to indicate, it is an immensely complicated, problematical and controversial one.

What most characterises the decline of faith in Britain is the perceived loss of credibility of religious belief, because it seems to have no foothold in a philosophical world view where the whole of reality can be encompassed by science.

The root cause of this exclusion has to be located in the Enlightenment, the enthronement of Reason in place of dogma and "superstition". Ever since, religion has been playing away from home; and all subsequent attempts to adapt it so it can flourish in that hostile intellectual climate seem to have failed. Nevertheless the proposition inherent in the Enlightenment, that morality can survive without roots in dogmatic faith, is still, 200 years on, not yet vindicated.

Young criminals do not rehearse such arguments to themselves as they lie in wait to snatch handbags. And they were probably not in church on Sunday to see whether the vicar preached a "clear, definite and repeated statement of personal morality" in answer to Mr Hurd's appeal. And that is a problem the Church of England knows only too well: its almost insignificant membership in, or direct influence over, the working class.

But Britain is becoming a more uniform and unified intellectual and moral culture. If there is an increase in working class irreligion and amorality, it must go hand in hand with a similar trend in the middle and upper class. An opposite trend in the latter two would greatly influence the former, in a thousand ways. The start of such trend is not to be had just for the wishing of it, however, nor even because the Home Secretary and the Church of England both agree it is necessary for the good of society. It will start when people begin to think again that religion might be true.



John Makepeace makes an exhibition of himself with a table made for Liberty's centenary and now on sale for £50,000 at his one-man show in the Dorset market town of Wimborne. Makepeace has been described as a visionary furniture-maker as well as a fervent advocate of a revival of the British timber industry. His work as a craftsman will be on view at the show. Visitors will be able to see a four-foot-high tree trunk in Lebanese cedar which he has carved into a double seat at the top and a single seat underneath, a side table in scrubbed burr oak and burr elm and a highly-unsual bookcase in holly, vellum and bog-oak. There will be desks, dining and dressing-room woodware in exotic woods. It is almost twelve years since Mr Makepeace bought Parham House at Beaminster, Dorset, and opened it as the

School for Craftsmen in Wood. To date, 90 students have passed through his highly-regarded course in furniture-making. Almost all are now in business making small-scale pieces for clients all over the world. Viscount Linley is probably his best-known former pupil. Later this year he will open a new school at Hooke Park, a few miles from Parham, which aims to revitalise the moribund British wood industry. Students will train in a 350-acre woodland estate bought by Mr Makepeace from the Forestry Commission for £250,000. Already £750,000 has been raised to set up the project which will use new technology to make use of trees grown commercially in Britain by the retail trade and industry.

(Photograph: Nick Rogers)

Forthcoming marriages

The Earl of Pembroke and Miss M.J. Oram
The engagement is announced between the Earl of Pembroke, of Wilton House, Wiltshire, and Miranda, daughter of Mrs J.H. Oram, of Whitwick Manor, Leicestershire, and Commander J.S.K. Oram, of Bulbridge House, Wilton, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Mr A.J. McGladdery and Miss K. Eastace
The engagement is announced between Mr A.J. McGladdery, of 28 Beresford Gardens, Hadleigh, Essex, and Katrina, younger daughter of Major and Mrs Mrs T.R.H. Eastace, of Gibe House, Boughton Aluph, Ashford, Kent.

Mr E.R.G. Heaslip and Miss S.M. Davies
The engagement is announced between Mr E.R.G. Heaslip, of 10, Waterlooville, Hampshire, and Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Berrington Davies.

Mr N.S. Charrington and Miss S.M.A. Mallinson
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Major and Mrs Gerald Charrington, of Layer Marney Tower, Colchester, Essex, and Sheila, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Terence Mallinson, of 28 Albion Street, London, W2.

Mr N. Fernandez Llorente and Miss C. Deane
The engagement is announced between Mr N. Fernandez Llorente, of Euenos Aires, Argentina, and Caroline, daughter of Mr Robin Deane and Mrs Ricardo Green, of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Mr D.G.C. Guinness and Miss M.Z. Webster
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Captain and Mrs Gerald Guinness, and Margaret, elder daughter of Mr T.G. Saunders, of Farnham, Surrey, and Mrs N.C. Merrick, of Chesham, Buckinghamshire. The marriage will take place on September 24, in London.

Mr J.G. Grey and Miss S.D.K. Williamson
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of the late Mr Peter Grey and Mrs Crystal Grey, of Rye, East Sussex, and Sue, daughter of the late Air Vice-Marshal Peter Williamson, and of Mrs Jill Williamson, of Lynton, Hampshire.

Mr M.S. Hepworth and Miss G.M. Kelly
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs C.W. Hepworth, of Cross in Hand, East Sussex, and Gillian, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Kelly, of Huntingdon, York.

Mr E.H. Leigh and Miss B.D. Wansborough
The engagement is announced between Edward, younger son of Mr and Mrs P.S. Leigh, of High Harnwood, Sussex, and Bianca, only daughter of Mr P. Wansborough, of Seend, Wiltshire, and Mrs M.D. Entrecaules, of Chelsea, London.

Mr D.M. Newby and Miss G.M. Maskell
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs C.J. Newby, of Antingham, North Norfolk, and Gwendolene, only daughter of Dr and Mrs J.F.A. Maskell, of Chalton, Hampshire.

Mr N.A. Robertson and Miss L.A. Coote
The engagement is announced between Neil Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Robertson, formerly of Timau, Kenya, and now of Broughton, Gloucestershire, and Louise Anne, daughter of Major and Mrs Clifford Coote, of Ensworth, Hampshire.

Mr M.S. Turnbull and Miss F.A. Houlahan
The engagement is announced between Marcus, son of the late Brigadier D.J.T. Turnbull, CBE, DSO, of Filton, Gloucestershire, and the late Mrs Adelia Vos-Brackenbury, of Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, and Frances, only daughter of Mrs Stella Eveline Houlahan and the late Mr Robert Dennis Houlahan, of Barrow, North Wales.

Dr J.R. Wace and Dr J.E. Mackay
The engagement is announced between Jocelyn, son of Mr and Mrs C.R. Wace, of Gables Farm, Hemblington, Norwich, and Jean, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.F.C. Mackay, of Yew Tree Farm, Fornett St Mary, Norwich.

Mr R.D. Warren and Miss E.M. George
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs R.D. Warren, of Sparrow, Wiltshire, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs W.R.P. George, of Criccieth, Gwynedd, North Wales.

Memorial service

A memorial service for Mr Manoug Parham was held on Saturday at St Peter's, Cranley Gardens. Bishop Yeghishé Ghizian officiated. Mr Gareth Morris and Miss Kalindjian were the soloists. Mr Manoug Parham was a member of the Chilingirian and Mr Haroutiune Bedelian played *Concerto for Two Violins* by Bach.

OBITUARY

MR LÉON GOOSSENS

Prince of oboists

Mr Léon Goossens, CBE, one of the foremost virtuosi of the oboe, died on February 12, after a long illness. He was 90.

His taste and musicianship were as influential as his skill, and as a teacher his influence reached beyond the oboe to affect the playing of all the woodwind instruments. His mastery of his own instrument enabled him to bring innovations of method, and refinements of style, into general acceptance.

Léon Jean Goossens was born in Liverpool at that time the headquarters of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, of which his father was principal conductor, on June 12, 1897. He was third son of an enormously gifted family which had come to England from Belgium in 1873 and which, in its third generation, included, besides Léon himself, Eugene, a composer and conductor regarded in the 1920s as one of the brightest hopes of British music; a second son, equally promising until his death in action; and two sisters, Sidonie and Marie, among the most admired of British harpists.

If musicians are born and not made, it seems natural that the youngest of such a family should achieve prominence among the leading instrumentalists of the age.

Whatever he owed to his inheritance, however, Léon was made into an oboist by his father. When he was a child occupying the family box at Carl Rosa performances, his father, or a deputy appointed whenever his father was conducting, would point out to him the distinctive tone and the special effects made by the oboe whenever its voice was heard.

He took his first lesson on the oboe in his tenth year, his teacher being Charles Reynolds, formerly first oboist of the Halle Orchestra. The result of this, together with his early indoctrination, was that as a twelve-year old schoolboy from Liverpool's Christian Brothers' Catholic Institute he first played at an orchestral concert as third oboist in Strauss's *Die Eulenspiegel* at a Liverpool Philharmonic concert. The story goes that Beethoven, the conductor on that occasion, was so startled by the presence of a small boy among the woodwinds that he demanded to see the young Goossens's licence.

In 1911, the family moved to London, where Léon entered the Royal College of Music. In 1913 his talent was already so marked that Sir Henry Wood invited him to occupy the first oboe chair with the Queen's Hall Orchestra, and a year later, he became first oboist with the orchestra.

In 1915, he resigned to volunteer in the Middlesex Hussars. Throughout 1917 he served in France as a corporal in the Eighth Fusiliers. The following year he served in the Sherwood Foresters, and shortly before the Armistice was badly wounded.

After the war he returned to his post with the Queen's Hall Orchestra and in 1923 was appointed professor of the oboe at the Royal College of Music. A year later he joined

the faculty at the Royal Academy.

In 1924 he founded the Philharmonic Trio, a chamber music group which appeared in successful concerts throughout Europe. He made his American debut in New York in 1928, supported by his brother Eugene and the Marianne Kneisel Quartet.



A portrait of Goossens by Edward Halliday which was presented to the oboist on the eve of his seventieth birthday, in 1967.

His virtuosity was rhapsodically praised.

He played also in the Royal Philharmonic and Covent Garden Opera orchestras, and, when Beethoven founded the London Philharmonic Orchestra in 1932, to set a new standard of orchestral playing in London. Goossens became his principal oboist. Beethoven, he later recalled, "was like a breath of fresh air. I think we understood each other's shortcomings... and he was a very good friend to me". At Covent Garden he sometimes took charge of orchestral rehearsals when Beecham was late in arriving.

The refinement to Goossens's style, in which breadth of tone was achieved without any sacrifice of richness and softness of texture or disturbance of a slow vibrato—at that time a very uncommon feature of oboe playing—found its true orchestral element in the performances of the London Philharmonic under Beecham, and records of his playing with the orchestra in, for example, works by Delius, show as clearly as any of his later work the beauty, distinction, control and sensitivity of his playing.

Recognition of his exceptional gifts encouraged almost every notable English composer to write for him: these included Bax, Bliss, Britten, Elgar (one uncompleted movement of an unfinished suite) and Vaughan Williams. With the outbreak of the Second World War, the departure of Beecham, and the change in the fortunes and control of the London Phil-

harmonic, Goossens retired from orchestral playing to devote himself to solo work and to his professorships.

His recitals and lecture recitals were events in which works from the entire literature of his instrument made their appearance and were treated to beautifully phrased, fastidious perfor-

mances marked by a breadth of control which seemed miraculous. He never talked down to his audiences, particularly in schools, where he did splendid work in introducing music to the young.

He seemed to play wherever Western music was heard—with Ivor Newton, the accompanist, for example, he was the first British musician to play for the Philharmonic Society of Teheran—and as a teacher his influence was incalculable.

A serious motor accident in 1963, in which his teeth and hips were severely damaged, seemed, for a time, almost certain to put an end to his already long career. But with courage and persistence he developed an entirely new technique of lip control, and within two years he had returned to the recital platform. His injuries may have robbed his playing of a little of its old strength of tone, but its precision, its refinement and the beauty of his phrasing showed themselves to be unaffected.

Léon Goossens, elegant in dress and manner, seemed a man from an age larger than ours. The natural distinction of his bearing and his easy friendliness helped to explain his success as a lecturer and teacher.

He continued to perform until well into his eighties. An abiding passion was sailing.

He was twice married. His second wife, Leslie, whom he married in 1933, died in 1985. There was a daughter of the first marriage, and two daughters of the second.

ARTHUR MIZENER

Arthur Mizener, the American literary biographer who played a large part in making a modern generation on both sides of the Atlantic aware of the importance of F. Scott Fitzgerald, died in Rhode Island on February 11. He was 80.

Fitzgerald, whose 1925 novel, *The Great Gatsby*, was one of the great American books of the century, had seemed very much a *passé* figure after the Second World War, a chronicler of the trivia of the Jazz Age. He was ripe for revival, and Mizener's biography, *The Far Side of Paradise*—the title was a play on the name of Fitzgerald's first successful novel, *This Side of Paradise*—proved to be a best-seller when it appeared in 1951.

Mizener taught English at Cornell University from 1951 until his retirement in 1975. He wrote scores of essays and book reviews, which were

collected and expanded in 1965 in *The Sense of Life in the Modern Novel*—a book which showed, according to *The Times* reviewer, "an earnestness in approaching the novel that stems from the old Puritan suspicion that easy reading is sinful."

In 1971 he published a detailed, if not particularly inspired, biography of Ford Madox Ford, *The Saddest Story*.

But by this time the rehabilitation of the author of *The Great Gatsby* was complete, and there was a ready market when he produced *Scott Fitzgerald and his World*, an elegantly-illustrated book catching the glamour of the American-dream world between the wars.

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PROF BHAEDDIN MAJROOH

Professor Bhaeddin Majrooh, who was assassinated in Pakistan in 1979, he fled to Pakistan, where he set up the Afghan Information Centre in Peshawar and published a highly accurate monthly digest of events in Afghanistan.

Visits to his office became indispensable to visiting foreign journalists, and he contributed regularly to the BBC and other Western broadcasting organizations; two hours before his assassination, he had agreed to be filmed for *Newsnight*.

Although not a member of any of the resistance groups, Majrooh was close to the moderates among them, and had tended to arouse the anger of fundamentalists.

Air Vice-Marshal Michael Henry Le Bus, CBE, DSO, AFC, former Director-General of Personal Services, RAF, died on January 26, aged 71.

During the war he flew Spitfires in Malta, the Western Desert and Italy. He was at Suez in 1956.

MISS H. M. HEDLEY

Miss Hilda Mable Hedley, CB, who died on January 29, aged 69, served at the Department of Health and Social Security (formerly Ministry of Health) from after the war until her retirement in 1975, from 1967 as an Under-Secretary.

She was born on May 4, 1918, and educated at Cheltenham Ladies' College and at Newnham College, Cambridge. There she read Classics, specializing in the derivation of languages.

During the early war years she served with the Uncommon Languages Department, Postal Censorship, before going to the Foreign Office in 1942.

In 1946 she joined the Ministry of Health. In the mid-1950s she was secretary to the Royal Commission on Mental Health.

In 1960 she won a Nuffield Fellowship and spent a year travelling in New Zealand, India and Ceylon studying public health.

PICK OF THE WEEK AT CHRISTIE'S

Sir Noel Coward Jamaican Bay

signed, gouache and oil on canvas

Noel Coward was an enthusiastic painter throughout his life, producing some of his most accomplished works during the 1960s in Jamaica. This example is typical of his vibrant Jamaican pictures, displaying a keen interest in crowds, landscape and a strong sense of theatrical design.

This is one of thirty-four paintings by Noel Coward to be offered in a unique sale at Christie's, King Street on Thursday, 18 February at 6.30 p.m.

For further information about this and other sales in the next week please telephone 01-859 9060.

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صحنه من الامل

THE ARTS

Queens of the jumble

Being a vicar's wife, as *Everyman* (BBC2) revealed last night, is no vicar's tea party. Scarcely have you finished buffing up the altar rail and washing the choir's linen when your parishioners are rapping at the kitchen window in search of comfort and advice. Living in a big house on a small-house income (£8,200 per annum at the latest count), you tend to be charged top prices by the tradesmen. Because of the nature of your position, it is impossible to form close friendships in the parish. One of the hardest things is that you must always be nice.

These grooves did not all emanate from the same source, and it was one of the documentary's strengths that a fair spread of circumstance and opinion had been netted. One wife — also a full-time hospital chaplain and therefore a Rev in her own right — feels guilty about not being able to do everything under the sun; another works for *Woman's Hour*, has kept her own surname and resents the idea of being taken for granted as an help meet for her husband — who is anyway much better at arranging flowers than she is.

The great lacuna in these proceedings was the absence of comment from the other halves. How do vicars feel about being vicars' wives' husbands? Some cheekily interesting of sound and vision between *Murder at the Vicarage* and a real matronly confab suggested that the fictional analogue is often indistinguishable from actuality, and that our prior conceptions may safely remain intact. As the closing quote affirmed, this unpaid post does have advantages: you always get the pick of the jumble.

The *South Bank Show* (LWT) had Colin McCabe sermonizing on the past and future of British television. After extolling the products of the 1960s (illustrated), he went on to identify the most serious danger facing the medium, which turned out to be that "there will be an attempt, under cover of appeal to market forces, to fudge and forge a false unity based on faded images of the nation."

One might object that the most serious danger may come from former Professors of English Literature who have a Beowulfian love of alliteration without being able to pronounce the final "g" of their gerunds. The lecturer's heroically unmasculine audience was too polite either to snigger at his abysmal autocue technique or to point out that "the fabled entertainment arm of the services" was called ENSA and not, as he claimed, ITMA. In this context, ITMA stood for "It's That McCabe Again".

Martin Cropper

NEW YORK THEATRE

The first production that Peter Brook has cast and directed in America in 30 years, *The Cherry Orchard*, has been staged in the Majestic Theatre. This is not the one where *Phantom* is playing but a derelict grand-scale movie palace, restored by its neighbouring Brooklyn Academy of Music. The huge proscenium space and two levels of former box seats are now empty and open, looking like a partial restoration of an archaeological site with the walls patches of terracotta, green, beige, and echoes of other colours.

Designer Chloe Obiolsky creates the Ranevskaya estate with expanses of oriental rugs and a few folding screens and pieces of furniture. Lopachin has an added line about about the house crumbling, and the sense of a vast estate is evoked with the box areas leading to more rooms and the orchard imagined out front.

What is lost in intimacy is gained in perspective, for Brook's is a lucid production, in which each character moves from foreground to background like an evolving group portrait. I have, for example, never seen all three young women in the play less stage ingenues and more arresting personalities. Varya (Stephanie Roth) is not a drying stick but a beautiful bud just out of the sun's reach; Anya (Arthur Miller's daughter, Rebecca) is precociously intelligent and more understanding of her mother (Natasha Parry) and Trofimov (Zeljko Ivanek) than they are of themselves or each other; Dunyasha (Norman Mailer's daughter, Kate) is a frisky pup trying to please while resisting training.

Holly Hill reports on Peter Brook's first New York stage production for 30 years and on some other developments in the city's theatre



Mother and Firs: Natasha Parry and Roberts Blossom in Peter Brook's new production of *The Cherry Orchard*

The indelible performances are Erland Josephson's Gav, the most graceful muddled soul ever to haunt a stage, Linda Hunt's inventively eccentric and congenially lonely Charlotta, and Roberts Blossom's watchful, dogged Firs. The strengths of this *Cherry Orchard* are more numerous than can be cited here; its weakness is that though it is

continuously engrossing, and often amusing and enlightening, it is never deeply moving. It is easier to weep when taking sides. Peter Brook has crafted a balanced portrait which leads itself more to contemplation.

A.R. Gurney jun. has been off stride ever since *The Dining Room*,

the 1982 play whose success ironically helped him go on leave from a university professorship to devote himself to writing. Another Antigone (Playwrights' Horizons) follows last season's *Sweet Sue* and its predecessor *The Perfect Party* in offering provocative ideas provocatively underdeveloped.

Peerless pair

CONCERTS

Kremer/Argerich Barbican Hall

For once, there is no need for your critic to watch his superlatives, because this was the most marvellous recital I can ever remember hearing. Gidon Kremer and Martha Argerich are both unsurpassed in their own years for the beauty and variety of sound they produce and for the quality of their musicianship. But whereas so often in partnerships such as theirs, like poles repel, in this instance their talents met and mingled to enthralling effect.

From the beginning, with the pair's reading of Schumann's First Violin Sonata, Op 105, it was obvious that the evening was likely to be special. The swirling, passionate lines of the work's outer movements were meticulously traced, each contour and shading carefully calculated, although by means of the musical instinct of the moment rather than through any evident pre-meditation.

The control shown by both

players at the beginning of the Allegretto central movement was utterly magical in a different way.

Then Kremer and Argerich turned their attentions to Bartók's First Violin Sonata, which was another exhibition in how both performers should react with each other. Here, an even wider spectrum of sound colours was on display, ranging from Argerich's deliciously rippling accompaniment at the opening to Kremer's rich solo in the Adagio.

The finale was not the scratchy romp it can sometimes be, either. Robust the flavour may have been, but still the placement of each note and the balance between the performers was perfection.

Yet, in the face of their unforgettable reading of Franck's Violin Sonata, all else, even in this concert, was in danger of fading into relative insignificance. The work can so easily sound indulgent and soporific, but Kremer and Argerich together made every single moment, every tiny nuance, matter as it can never have mattered before.

Stephen Pettitt

LSO/Hickox Barbican Hall

Philip Langridge's interpretation of the tenor role in *The Dream of Gerontius* has the dramatic astuteness, the grasp of the Elephanian idiom, and most of all the burning urgency, to be ranked alongside the finest there has been.

This deathbed was beset with fear, remorse and panic. Langridge's extraordinarily bold rubato and remarkable variations in timbre evoked a man who, both in his proclaiming of his faith and in his premonition of judgement, is desperately trying to make up for lost time. "Sanctus fortis" was a pulsating and tense outpouring, the sense of strain in the voice peculiarly apt.

In Part Two that strain disappeared. Here Langridge really did seem to float free of worldly tension, in a beautifully modulated half-voice. His dialogue with Felicity Palmer's Angel was a cleverly underplayed conversation that admirably offset the massive solidity of "Praise to the Holiest".

Around Langridge, Richard Hickox built a characteristically well-detailed and industriously controlled performance. He made a fine



Richard Hickox: controlled job of following Langridge's impulsive tempo fluctuations, and perhaps his own sounded a bit calculated by comparison. But there was much strong and secure singing from the London Symphony Chorus (some oddly nervous semi-chorus entries apart).

Felicity Palmer is not the first person one might think of to sing the words "softly and gently", but her account of "A presage falls upon thee" was tenderly phrased, even if her startling glissandos on the alleluia seemed to indicate that this was the sort of angel who might organise bracing games of hockey on the Elysian Fields. Gwynne Howell was the firm-toned bass.

Richard Morrison

No particular place to go

ROCK

Chuck Berry Hammersmith Odeon

The ground rules of a Chuck Berry gig must by now have passed into legend: he plays strictly in accordance with the times specified in his contract; his backing musicians are hired locally by the promoter, and may be counted fortunate if they meet the singer before the show, let alone find out beforehand what songs will be played and in which keys. It sounds like a recipe for disaster and so, with crushing predictability, it proved to be.

Berry was hunched over his amp tuning his guitar when the curtain rose, and made no effort to conceal his disgruntlement at being prematurely exposed to the packed auditorium. He casually drifted into an appalling instrumental farrago which gave the sound engineer a chance to switch up and balance the levels of the various instruments.

Then it was into a halting

succession of those exuberant chronicles of teenage life in the Fifties, prefaced by Berry's distinctive double-string bends, which have become the lingua franca of successive generations of rock musicians: "Roll Over Beethoven", "School Day", "Carol" and "Little Queenie".

The poetic flights of fancy and youthful generosity of spirit that characterise Berry's songs were qualities markedly absent in his conduct on stage. He hadn't even bothered to identify his backing trio, calling for "a big band for the bass player" shortly before bawling him out when a frightful and incongruous version of the Elmore James slow blues "It Hurts Me Too" threatened to fall apart. Perhaps for once, posterity should be informed that their names were Mark Stevens (piano), Dave Christopher (bass) and Graham Hollingworth (drums).

Every expense was spared, from the pared down lighting rig to the provision of a bare minimum of musical equipment, which was drawn up into a sorry looking *langer* surrounded by wide expanses of empty stage, a powerful

visual metaphor for the embittered and isolated course Berry has charted through the world of rock performance for the last 25 years of his career.

Ironically, his zealous parsimony has resulted in the wholesale squandering of an immense talent. Even in the face of this remarkable act of a benevolent audience of 60 to 65-year-olds gradually warmed to the occasion as Berry invited requests from the floor and the gates went on another field of hotted thoroughbreds, songs that have withstood brutalization nightly at the hands of pub and garage bands the world over, and which weren't about to collapse in the face of one more assault by their originator.

Berry did a couple of duck-walk routines, orchestrated a minor stage invasion, and after 62 minutes glided off into the wings, not to return for an encore. The spectacle of such an icon peddling one of the central repertoires of rock'n'roll with all the finesse of a used car salesman has never been an edifying experience, and has not improved with age.

David Sinclair

Safe haven, even if not a home

RADIO

"The English," remarked a contributor to *Where Is My Home?*, "don't trust foreigners." But one conclusion to be drawn from last Saturday's Radio 4 feature was that, in spite of this, we have managed to provide a satisfactory home for a very great number of them. Veronika Hyks and her producer, John Theodoris, had collected the experiences of a number of Czech exiles, fugitives from the events of 1948 and 1968. These men and women had expected a fair chance from us and on the whole they seemed to have got it.

But they told some haunting stories: one man, soon after

arrival, had arranged to meet his wife at Oxford Circus. She never turned up. Later he discovered that she had spotted a policeman and fled, so strong were the habits of home. Many confessed to having no real nationality any more, yet the hold of homeland is strong. Smetana and Dvorak bring it back, while one woman recalled how, on driving into the Alps with her two sons (neither of whom, I understood, had ever seen Czechoslovakia), both uttered a deep sigh of recognition of this steep and wooded place.

As to trust, which we are inclined to rate so high, perhaps it doesn't matter all that much. In fact a kind of distrust may be a positive advantage if it leads you to do the right things — like giving a bit of detached and practical aid, but

otherwise leaving people alone to work out their own lives, which these exiles seem to have been only too willing to do. All in all, this was a lovely little programme that went effortlessly right to the heart of its subject.

But I wanted more from another Theodoris production last night. Our Green Survival Kit? (Radio 4, repeating Tuesday) asked a very interesting question: have "natural" plant derived drugs been ousted by synthetics? An attractive and elegant programme answered it with an unequivocal "No" and made it clear that, far from being exhausted, the potential of medicinal plants has scarcely been evaluated. But it would have been useful to hear more of why plant extracts may be preferable to synthetics. Is it

simply as we learnt that some of them (such as Digoxin) are extremely complex and difficult to replicate? What about the claim, for instance, that natural extracts bring with them elements which make their action more congenial to the body than the super-refinement of the synthetics? In short the topic would have been the better for a more exciting scientific treatment. On the other hand, radio science tends to skirt round this sort of subject, so we had better be thankful for what we have received.

Which is more than I am prepared to be for Stephen Sheridan's *Fallen Arches* (Radio 4, Saturday, repeating Wednesday). This spoof on the darker doings of the late Victorian aristocracy seems to me without wit or point of any kind. What a pity, since its placing late on Saturday night may well ensure that nobody stays tuned for *Leslie of The Rivers*, which takes a lumatic and lively swipe at the football world. In Marcus Berkman's script Ricky Lenin (Alexei Sayle) transfers from the USSR to Liverpool and proceeds to communicate his own club. Goalscoring, for example, will be shared. Mr Berkman's target is large and unmissable, but some of the blows are nicely aimed.

Few programmes bear less resemblance to radio comedy than *Analysis* (Radio 4, Thursday, repeating Friday), but Peter Hennessy's conversation with the Director-General provoked the odd sympathetic smile. Michael Checkland sounds so unlike the standard Corporation mandarin that when he gives undertakings about programmes or reassurances about the future of the BBC, I am inclined to believe him.

David Wade

Royal Opera House



The Royal Ballet

The Sons of Horus
Music: Peter McGowan
Choreography: David Bintley
Design: Terry Bartlett

Symphonic Variations
Music: César Franck
Choreography: Frederick Ashton
Design: Souda Fedorovitch

La Fin du jour
Music: Maurice Ravel
Choreography: Kenneth MacMillan
Design: Ian Spedding

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THE SONS OF HORUS Photo: Leslie El Spat



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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Jane Rackham

- BBC1**
- 6.00** *Coastal*. AIL.
- 6.35** *Edgar Kennedy in Noisy Neighbours* (b/w). **6.55** *Weather*.
- 7.00** *Breakfast Time* with John Stapleton and Kirsty Wark. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25. Plus, the latest news from the Winter Olympics.
- 8.30** *Laverne and Shirley*. American comedy series. **8.55** *Regional news and weather*.
- 9.00** *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*. Eamonn Holmes receives viewers' comments on the weekend's television output. To participate ring 081-814 0424.
- 10.00** *News and weather* followed by *The Flintstones* (r). **10.25** *Children's BBC*. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by *Play School* (r) and *The Wombles* (r).
- 10.55** *Five to Eleven*. A reading by Patricia Routledge. **11.00** *News and weather* followed by *Open Air* presented by Patsy Cuthbert and Eamonn Holmes.
- 12.00** *News and weather* followed by *Olympic report*. Highlights of the short programme in the pairs figure skating championship; plus speed skating; and who won the medals at the 70m ski jump. **12.55** *Regional news and weather*.
- 1.00** *One O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. *Weather*. **1.30** *Neighbours*. *Clive* becomes Susan's knight in shining armour. **1.50** *Going for Gold*.
- 2.15** *Inside*. The Chief becomes a baby sitter when the only clue to the identity of a would-be plane bomber is an abandoned youngster. **3.00** *Best of British*. Part one of a series celebrating 50 years of films from the Rank Studios, narrated by Sir John Mills (r).
- 3.25** *Watching*. Consumer affairs series presented by John Stapleton and Lynn Faulds Wood (shown again at 7.40).
- 3.50** *Ben Hur* (r). **4.00** *The Antics Roadshow* from Liverpool Polytechnic. **4.10** *SuperTed* (r). **4.20** *Jackanory*. Bernard Cribbins with part one of Anthony Smith's *Which Animal Are You?* **4.35** *Droids*. The second of a three-part adventure. (Ceebox)
- 4.55** *Newsround* with John Craven, Helen Rolleson and Roger Finn. **5.05** *Blue Peter*. **5.35** *Neighbours* (r).
- 6.00** *Six O'Clock News* with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. **6.35** *London Plus*.
- 7.00** *Wogan* with ex-Rolling Stone, Bill Wyman; Lady Susananna Walton, widow of Sir William Walton, whose *Passion* is performed by the Koenig Ensemble with narration by Richard Baker. Plus pop group Deacon Blue.
- 7.40** *Watching*. A repeat of the programme shown at 3.25.
- 8.05** *The Golden Oldie Show*. The first of a new series in which Dave Lee Travis introduces old hits dressed up in modern videos.
- 8.30** *Whatever Next*. A game show.
- 9.00** *Nine O'Clock News* with Martyn Lewis and Philip Hayton. *Regional news and weather*.
- 9.30** *Personals*. Violence on television. Kate Adie investigates whether or not the Government's new controls over television programmes showing violence are justified.
- 10.10** *Talking Pictures*. *Born* Norman reports on Hollywood and the West. (Ceebox)
- 11.00** *Business Matters*. This first of a new series goes behind the scenes of the Winter Olympics to see how the committee planned for profit.
- 11.25** *Millennium of the Dawn*. A new series in which Mary O'Hara performs a selection of her favourite music. The guests are Instant Sunshine.
- 11.55** *Weather*.

- BBC2**
- 6.55** *Open University: Database - Information Systems*. Ends at 7.30.
- 9.00** *Coastal*.
- 9.15** *Daytime on Two*: news of diploma level studies. **9.30** *The first of the programme about women and society*. **10.00** *For four- and five-year olds*. **10.15** *Music: a West Indian song*. **10.40** *Pigeon racing*. **11.00** *Following* clues. **11.20** *Waters*. **1.45** *Tutorial topics: fame and appearances*. **12.00 *British social history: the women's movement and the story of the Ladies of Langham Place*. **12.30** *An in-depth report at a major issue of the week*. **1.00** *Science: what is a liquid gas?*. **1.30** *For the very young*. **1.35** *The origins of the fast food industry*. **2.00** *News and weather* followed by a series for the young.**
- 2.15** *Songs of Praise* (r). (Ceebox)
- 3.00** *News and weather* followed by *Olympic Match of the Day*. The first of a daily series of programmes presented by Steve Rider featuring highlights of the play in the Olympic ice hockey tournament. Today's scheduled games are between Canada and Poland, and Finland against Switzerland.
- 3.30** *News, regional news and weather*.
- 4.00** *Advice Shop*. Margo Macdonald with advice for pensioners on the raising money on a mortgage-free home; earning extra without having a pension docked; and buying a home in an expensive part of the country to be near relatives.
- 4.30** *Noticeboard*. Rob Curing with radio and television programme news; Marian Foster has *Daytime Club* details.
- 4.35** *Polder*. Episode 14 of the 16-part romantic serial (r).
- 5.30** *Olympic Grandstand*. Highlights from the short programme in the pairs figure skating championship; live coverage of the final two runs of the men's individual luge competition; news of the men's 30km cross-country; and highlights of the first speed-skating event to be decided - the men's 500m.
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- ITV/LONDON**
- 6.00** *TV-am* begins with cartoons and comedy series followed at 7.00 by part one of *Good Morning Britain* with Richard Keys and Peter Dinklage. Keys is joined by Mike Morris. After news includes an item on pregnancy care.
- 8.25** *Thames News*.
- 8.30** *Give us a Clue*. Celebrity charades game presented by Michael Parkinson. This morning Lionel Blair and Liza Goddard are joined by Mark Addy, Stephen Frost, Vicke Michelle, Ian Ogilvy, Wendy Richard and Andy Kinnear. **10.00** *Santa Barbara*. **10.55** *Thames News*.
- 10.30** *The Place*. Mike Smith chairs a discussion on a topical subject. **11.10** *Left*. A programme about the *One Person Parade*. **11.25** *Thames News*.
- 11.30** *The Mirror Show*. Health and Beauty. Look and feel good with advice from Helen Craven. **12.00** *News*. **12.55** *Thames News*.
- 1.00** *Chain Letters*. World association game presented by Jeremy Beckett.
- 1.30** *The 1968 Summer* (1968) starring Richard Egan, Ralph Richardson and Diane Baker. Drama set in Greece at the time when the country was being threatened by an invasion from Persia. Directed by Rudolph Maté. **3.25** *Thames News*.
- 3.30** *The Young Doctors*. Medical drama. Serial set in a large Australian city hospital.
- 4.00** *Ticks on the Tum*. Village tales for children. **10.10** *4.20* *The Real Ghostbusters*. **4.45** *Seal Morning*. The final episode of the drama set in a remote part of the British Isles during the 1930s (r).
- 5.15** *Connections*. General knowledge quiz presented by Sue Robble.
- 5.45** *News*. **6.00** *Thames News*.
- 6.25** *Help* with news of a newspaper for the unemployed; holidays for single parents; and a threatened mobile crèche.
- 6.35** *Crossroads*.
- 7.00** *Wish You Were Here*. ? Anika Rice visits the Grand Canyon. (Oracle)
- 7.30** *Coronation Street*. Gloria is receiving more than her fair share of advice about her love life. (Oracle)
- 8.00** *Mr H is Late*. Dialogue-free comedy about palloberers trying to manoeuvre a coffin down 28 flights of stairs in a tower block. Written by, directed and starring Eric Sykes, supported by a host of domestic comedians including Freddie Starr, Canon and Bill and Jimmy Edwards.
- 8.30** *World in Action*. A documentary revealing new evidence that Palestinians are being tortured inside Israel's military detention camps.
- 9.00** *Head Cases*. Drama serial about the Probation Service.
- 10.00** *News* at Ten. **10.30** *Thames News*.
- 10.35** *Cockney Snooker Classic* for the Mecca Bookmakers Trophy featuring an exhibition match between Steve Davis and comedian Mike Reid.
- 11.35** *Spy*. Vintage American espionage series starring Robert Culp and Bill Cosby.
- 12.30am** *Sportsworld Extra* featuring a National Tennis League match between Cardiff and Chester.
- 2.00** *News* headlines followed by *Film: Edge of Doom* (1950, b/w) starring Dana Andrews. Drama about a young man who kills a priest while in a state of shock after his mother's death. Directed by Mark Robson.
- 4.00** *News* headlines followed by *Film: That's Hollywood*. The near-Occur winners.
- 5.00** *TIN Morning News*. Ends at 6.00.

- CHANNEL 4**
- 9.30** *Schools*: the development of the British countryside. **9.47** *The different effects of light on people, animals and plants*. **10.04** *Why different animals choose different places to live*. **10.21** *Maths: counting and capacity*. **10.32** *Dr. Ted Hughes* including *The Jaguar*, *The Thought-Fox*, *A Motorbike* and *The Contender*. **11.00** *Animation and simple cartoon making*. **11.17** *Maths: overlapping shapes*. **11.41** *Maths: overlapping shapes*.
- 12.00** *Business Daily*. **12.30** *Just 4 Fun*. Three programmes for children.
- 1.00** *Open Exchange*. Weekly magazine series for everyone involved in open learning.
- 2.00** *The Late Late Show*. Dublin's music and chat show.
- 3.00** *Access*. A drama by William Trevor from the *Irish Love Stories* series. *Malcolm*, a married man and father in his late thirties, meets and falls in love with a younger woman and leaves his family. Later, during one of his week-end days out with his daughters he realizes he still loves his wife and asks her to live with him again. Starring Donald MacLennan, Deborah Mollay and Judi Bowker (r).
- 4.00** *Mavis on 4*. Mavis Nicholson continues her *Perfidians* series with the first of three programmes on adoption. Today she talks to Elizabeth Hall and Sue Hilling about their feelings when they traced their natural mothers.
- 4.30** *Movie: One*. **5.00** *The Munsters* (b/w). Vintage American comedy series about a ghastly family. Today, Herman arrives home a little worse for drink after the annual office party and is banished to the sofa. Starring Fred Gwynne and Yvonne De Carlo.
- 5.30** *The Beverly Hillsbillies* (b/w). Led Feigns illness in order to persuade Grand to prepare the potions that made her a legend in the hills.
- 6.00** *Information Technology*. The penultimate programme in the series shedding light on the mysteries of information technology. Today, interactive video is explored by Alan Dobie and Lesley Judd.
- 6.30** *Promises and Pleasures*. The first of a series of seven programmes written and presented by Stuart MacLure, editor of the *Times Educational Supplement*, examining the promises made by the Education Act of 1944, considering which ones were kept and which ones were broken (r). (Oracle)
- 7.00** *Channel 4 News*. **7.50** *Comment from Zarin Ahmet* on the subject of Cyprus. *Weather*. **8.00** *Household all is chaos*; at the Grants, Sheila decides she must help Debbie. Meanwhile, consternation is caused by Gordon returning home in a private ambulance and Anna continues to worry about Mona's welfare. (Oracle)
- 8.30** *Rude Health*. The final episode of the comedy series starring John Wells, John Bett and Paul Smith as three disparate doctors in a small town's medical centre where, this evening, they are making contingency plans for the health of the community in the event of a nuclear war.
- 9.00** *A Prospect of Rivers*. (see Choices)
- 10.00** *Hill Street Blues*. LaRue becomes involved with a snake-wielding tattoo artist; and Goldblum is angered by Lieutenant Buntz bending the rules when on a drugs investigation. (Oracle)
- 10.55** *Eleventh Hour*. Cinema: *Reed Dolls* (1981) Drama about a young woman who, after marrying the man of her parents' choice, is left a widow after bearing three of his children. Lonely, she has a brief affair which is to lead to tragic consequences. Directed by Jilka Forsthat. A Moroccan film with English subtitles.
- 12.25am** *Film: Ghost Dance* (1983) starring Leonie Mellinger and Pascale Ogier. The tale of Pascale, a French girl interested in ghosts and Marie-Anne, an English girl interested in revolution. Directed by Ken McMullen. Ends at 2.20.

- VARIATIONS**
- BBC1** *Wales*. **5.25pm-6.00pm** *Wales Today*. **6.30-7.00pm** *News* followed by *Neighbours*. **11.55** *Rugby Special* (Leicester v Bath, Llanelli v Pontypridd). **12.00** *News* and *weather*. **12.55pm-1.30pm** *Scottish*. **1.30pm-2.00pm** *Scottish*. **2.00pm-2.30pm** *Scottish*. **2.30pm-3.00pm** *Scottish*. **3.00pm-3.30pm** *Scottish*. **3.30pm-4.00pm** *Scottish*. **4.00pm-4.30pm** *Scottish*. **4.30pm-5.00pm** *Scottish*. **5.00pm-5.30pm** *Scottish*. **5.30pm-6.00pm** *Scottish*. **6.00pm-6.30pm** *Scottish*. **6.30pm-7.00pm** *Scottish*. **7.00pm-7.30pm** *Scottish*. **7.30pm-8.00pm** *Scottish*. **8.00pm-8.30pm** *Scottish*. **8.30pm-9.00pm** *Scottish*. **9.00pm-9.30pm** *Scottish*. **9.30pm-10.00pm** *Scottish*. **10.00pm-10.30pm** *Scottish*. **10.30pm-11.00pm** *Scottish*. **11.00pm-11.30pm** *Scottish*. **11.30pm-12.00pm** *Scottish*. **12.00pm-12.30pm** *Scottish*. **12.30pm-1.00pm** *Scottish*. **1.00pm-1.30pm** *Scottish*. **1.30pm-2.00pm** *Scottish*. 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Duke and Duchess in surprise visit to Northern Ireland

Archbishop urges support for the RUC

By John Cooney

The Duke and Duchess of York yesterday heard Dr Robin Eames, the Church of Ireland primate, call on all sides of the religious divide in Ulster to support the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

The Royal couple attended a service in St Anne's Cathedral in Belfast for the dedication of a memorial window to the 252 RUC officers killed in the present troubles.

At a sensitive time for the RUC, which is under heavy criticism from the Irish Government over the "shoot to kill" affair, Dr Eames said: "Nothing must be allowed to stand in the way of the continuing efforts of the police to gain the respect of the law-abiding community on both sides of our divided society".

The Irish Government yesterday insisted there would be no weakening of cross border security operations between the RUC and police in the republic.

However, it said it would be difficult to engage in policy decisions with the RUC while 11 officers in its ranks had been recommended for prosecution in connection with the killings of six Irishmen in Co Armagh in 1982.

Yesterday Mr Alan Dukes, the main opposition leader, appealed to Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, not to scale down cross border security.

Mr Dukes said that in view of the arms build-up by the IRA, security co-operation was not a tradeable commodity. If need be the head of the Garda, Mr Eamonn Doherty, and the RUC Chief Constable, Sir John Hermon, should meet.

On January 27 *The Times* revealed that the Irish Government had cancelled a meeting between the two police chiefs scheduled for that day in protest against the decision not to bring charges against RUC officers implicated in the Stalker-Sampson inquiry.

A decision by the Irish Government on when to convene the meeting will not be taken until after tomorrow's meeting of the Anglo-Irish inter-governmental conference in Belfast.

Dublin's response will be made after hearing from Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the plans worked out by the British Government for the internal reorganization of the RUC and for disciplinary measures against individual officers in connection with the "shoot to kill" inquiry.

Mr King is due to announce the Government's decisions to the House of Commons on Wednesday, at the same time as Mr Haughey presents a report to the Dail of his frosty meeting with Mrs Thatcher in Brussels last Friday.

Mr Haughey unsuccessfully sought to persuade Mrs Thatcher to review the decision not to bring charges in connection with the RUC inquiry and to grant clemency to the Birmingham six bombers.

In spite of the impasse over these two issues, London and Dublin want to continue working the Anglo-Irish agreement.

An important appointment within the next year which will be watched closely by the Irish Government is the successor to Sir Barry Shaw, the Director of Public Prosecutions in Belfast. It was this matter which brought Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, to Belfast last Thursday.

A summit meeting between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Haughey will be held later in the year to repair the damage done in recent weeks and to re-direct priorities for the agreement when its review is due in November.

Mr Haughey will appeal to the Unionists to enter into talks with him about the future settlement of Northern Ireland when he addresses his party's conference in Dublin on Saturday. Meanwhile, Mr Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin leader, announced that he will hold further talks with Mr John Hume, the leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party.



A smiling Duchess of York receives a Valentine's card from Richard Collins, aged four, in Killyleagh, Co Down yesterday

A little boy presented the Duchess of York with a Valentine's card yesterday, when the Duchess and her husband made a visit to Killyleagh, Co Down.

Richard Collins, aged four, gave the card — emblazoned with the words "Just For You" — to the Duchess when she presented him with first prize in his school's art competition, organized to coincide with the royal couple's visit to an exhibition in Killyleagh put on by the village historical society.

The Duchess hid the card from her smiling husband, after looking inside to read the inscription.

The Duke eventually wrested the card from his wife, and then beamed his approval after reading it.

It was the couple's second visit to the village. On their wedding day, they were created Baron and Baroness Killyleagh.

The Duchess twice walked through a crowd of several hundred people who gathered in the rain outside the town's library, collecting long-stemmed red roses from admirers, and rushed back and forth to shake as many hands as she could.

Earlier the Duchess challenged Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, to a game of table tennis.

At a school on the southern shores of Belfast Lough, the Duchess set aside a posy of flowers, picked up a bat and returned the spin serve.

The Royal couple toured the privately run Rockport Preparatory School at Craigavad, where the headmaster, Mr Graham Broad, was once Prince Andrew's form master during his days at Gordonstoun.

Mr Broad said: "It was terrific to see him again and this was the first time I had met his wife. We are delighted to have him at the school. It's a great compliment."

Parents stood for over an hour in pouring rain as their children entertained the Duke and Duchess in the gymnasium and arts and crafts centre, where the couple were presented with two Aran wool sweaters. The Duke quickly handed his wife, who is expecting a baby, the larger size.

The couple flew in to RAF Aldergrove for the unannounced visit. Hundreds of police and troops were on duty, and armed soldiers travelling in a separate helicopter followed the Duke and Duchess to the school to meet the parents and children and watch a gymnastic display and short musical programme.

Russia heralds Howe trip with sharp attack

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Sir Geoffrey Howe's arrival in the Soviet Union last night for a three-day official visit was heralded by a sharp attack on the Thatcher Government's arms control policies issued by Tass.

The wording of the criticism, contained in an article which also pointed to recent improvements in Anglo-Soviet relations, was seen as confirmation that the Foreign Secretary will face some tough talking on the question of Britain's independent nuclear deterrent during meetings with Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader.

"There still remain problems in Soviet-British relations," said the Tass commentary. "The British Government's non-constructive stand on the issue concerning further arms control measures, the stand which Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, described as overtly regressive, gives rise to concern. The Tory Government's attitude to the question of a ban on chemical weapons is ambiguous, too."

The attack on Britain's stand over the chemical weapons issue contrasted sharply with earlier Kremlin statements praising the role played by Britain in helping to try to engineer a successful compromise formula which could be signed by the 40 nations now negotiating in Geneva.

"While stating its determination to seek such a ban, London did not denounce by a single word the start of the production of the newest variety of chemical arms — binary weapons — by the United States," Tass said, reflecting Kremlin anger and concern at last December's decision by Washington to resume chemical weapons manufacture after a long gap.

Switching to the sensitive question of Britain's prohibition against various sorts of export to the Soviet Union, Tass stated: "While coming out in words in favour of the

development of Soviet-British trade, London not only keeps the discriminatory bans which stand in the way, but also piles up new ones under various pretexts."

Tass indicated that, in the wake of the signing in December of the superpower pact eliminating medium-range and shorter-range nuclear weapons, the Howe trip will be used by the Kremlin to focus on political differences inside Britain over the question of nuclear disarmament.

British officials have made it plain that Sir Geoffrey intends to stand firm both on the wider question of the

On the eve of Sir Geoffrey Howe's visit, Soviet authorities have told the Foreign Office that they are giving 13 Russians permission to leave the country (Nicholas Beeson writes).

The list includes the Jewish refusenik, Mrs Rima Sosna, aged 58, from Leningrad, who will be given an exit visa to join her son Boris in London.

"We raise human rights every time we see the Soviets," said a Foreign Office spokesman. "We have a list of about 50 cases and we have been told that 13 of those are about to be allowed to leave." Mrs Sosna's plight, detailed last week in an article in *The Times*, has been one of the main Soviet human rights cases championed by the Foreign Secretary.

British independent deterrent and on Britain's right to modernize its nuclear arsenal by switching from the Polaris to the Trident system, a plan which has already been repeatedly condemned by senior Soviet figures here.

Reports from London on the eve of the visit that Mrs Thatcher is now also ready to allow 60 more US F111 nuclear-armed bombers to be stationed on British soil, after the withdrawal of US intermediate-range missiles from Britain, have sharpened the wide differences over all aspects of arms control.

Thatcher Nato visit to stress modernization

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Mrs Thatcher is expected to use her first visit as Prime Minister to the Nato headquarters in Brussels this week to emphasize the need to keep both nuclear and conventional forces up to date.

The Prime Minister has made it clear on a number of occasions in recent months that Britain and Nato had a duty to modernize their weapon systems to maintain a proper deterrence.

There is growing division in Nato over whether to approve the modernization of the remaining tactical nuclear weapons deployed in Europe.

Mrs Thatcher's view is that those battlefield missiles must not be allowed to become obsolete.

The West Germans want those weapons to be negotiated away, but Mrs Thatcher

is opposed to any further cuts in nuclear weapons until the Soviet Union's huge conventional and chemical forces have been reduced.

Mrs Thatcher will be speaking on Wednesday to the 16 Nato permanent representatives in Brussels when she visits the headquarters. Later the same day she is to go to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe at Mons.

The Prime Minister is expected to use her visit to Nato headquarters to underline her fears of further denuclearization in Europe.

She is also understood to be in favour of "compensating" for the removal of all cruise and Pershing 2 intermediate range nuclear weapons by allowing more American F111 nuclear bombers to be based in Britain.

New aircraft disaster warning system

Continued from page 1

and that additional use of military airspace would not solve the congestion problem. A spokesman said simulators were already in use at the controllers' main training centre at Herne, near Bourne-mouth, and that a new system of reporting incidents urged controllers to contact a special unit set up within the CAA.

The CAA said a new traffic flow management scheme, under which aircraft are held outside British airspace until space can be made for them to make a fairly direct approach

to their destination, would be in use again this year.

Mr Mack will take up a new job at the end of this year at the European air traffic control centre, Eurocontrol, at Maastricht, Holland.

The CAA is committed to spending £22 million on a new computer at West Drayton as well as improving individual radar sites throughout Britain. Staff are working 24 hours a day to finalize a new traffic flow system for controlled airspace, in which aircraft will be guided along individual "tubes" towards airports, rather than on a random basis,

Thatcher seeks end of Young Tories' feuding

Continued from page 1

howling in from the Channel. The two agreed to meet again yesterday.

Shortly afterwards, a clearly shaken Mr Tinney said that Mr Whittingdale's arrival at his American-style reception, complete with cheer leaders and theme music modelled on Mrs Thatcher's campaign tune, had taken him unawares.

"I must admit I was surprised that they take it seriously enough to come down to Eastbourne."

According to Mr Tinney, Mr Whittingdale said: "I am

John Whittingdale, the Prime Minister's political secretary. I'd like to have a word with you. We must meet. It's too noisy in here." But yesterday he declined to discuss his second encounter with Mr Whittingdale.

The Prime Minister's envoy also spoke to Mr Nick Robinson, the outgoing moderate chairman of the YCs.

Mr Robinson said he would be returning to Downing Street with the clear message that the organizers of the far right challenge must be removed.

Drugged Crufts dog 'found staggering'

Continued from page 1

Liver containing samples of a yellow tablet was found on other benches, carefully concealed in bedding.

The winning dog, Cultured At Kashella, was taken by its owners, Mr P and Mrs A Johnstone, of Middlesbrough, to the vet.

Kennel Club stewards have ordered a veterinary enquiry. Mr Mark Whithings, the chief steward, said: "The dog was found in a drowsy condition on a bench. It was taken to the vet where it was treated and it later recovered."

"We cannot say at this stage

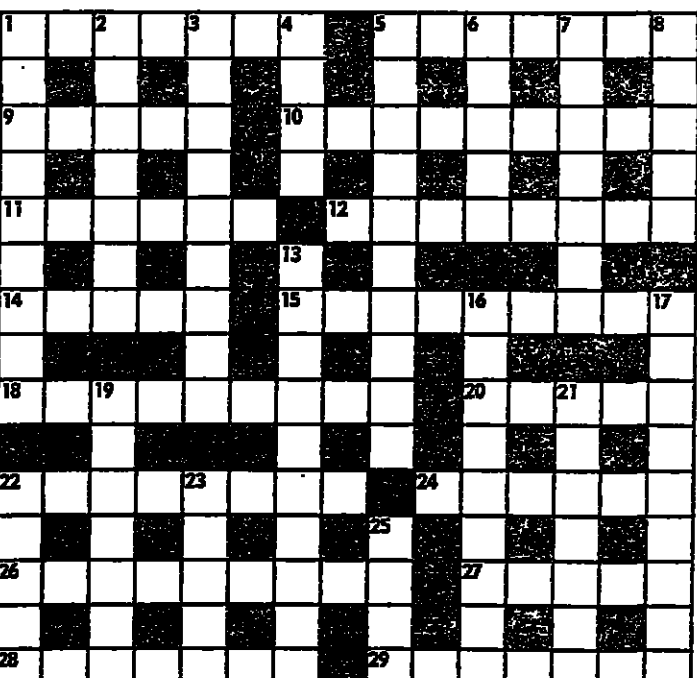
that the dog was doped for certain. That will depend on the results of tests being carried out. I cannot remember anything like this happening at Crufts before."

One animal nurse who saw the dog said: "There was a general feeling it had had something. You could tell by its eyes."

Mr Turner said: "The girl who brought the dog in was crying and very distressed. The dog was staggering around and showing signs which were indistinguishable from sedation."

Results page 5

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,592



ACROSS

- 1 To irritate a worker is bold? (7).
- 5 Thought like a pressman after all? (7).
- 9 Cheer up retired relation with a note (5).
- 10 Some hill-range where there's game (9).
- 11 Announcements about fighting for grants (6).
- 12 Defective hearing (8).
- 14 She's from Lancashire, needless to say (5).
- 15 Urge to study music (9).
- 18 Tories hug honest constituents (9).
- 20 Drive home by a roundabout way (5).
- 22 Old husband incarcerated in vile prison (8).
- 24 Politician in the market for a good model (6).
- 26 Yellow stuff most surprisingly found in sea-water (9).
- 27 It makes no odds if a woman goes to extremes (5).
- 28 Cannot stand having learner, say, in front of Minor (7).

DOWN

- 2 The torch-bearer's requirement (7).
- 3 A soldier turning red in rage (9).
- 4 Having a cigarette amid the general greenery (7).
- 6 Soldiers, many soldiers, in Army given a rise — a change for the better (9).
- 8 Drink hard — like a fish (4).
- 13 Expertise is needed to dress in a way-out fashion (10).
- 16 Support a proud movement (5).
- 17 This island was the making of one painter (7).
- 18 Stop dead very satisfactorily (5).
- 19 "Love goes towards love as from their books" (Rand J.) (10).
- 21 Will's trial meant trouble (9).
- 22 Any old sweater just will not do in America! (3,6).
- 23 Joke about spiral descent, though plainly winded (7).
- 24 Well-stocked salesman allowed a point (7).
- 25 A youngster, a trainee, creating pandemonium (5).
- 26 The subject of progeny (5).
- 27 Simple man mounting public transport (4).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

NAUTICAL SPORTICAL

By Philip Howard

KID

- a. A fiddle
- b. Something to hold a mess
- c. A knot in a lawer

KIT

- a. An apprentice sailmaker
- b. A fiddle
- c. A nightwatchman in harbour

FID

- a. A nautical breadbin
- b. A pointed stick
- c. To miss one's watch abroad

FIDDLERS' GREEN

- a. Part of the foc'sle used for dancing
- b. A long nautical cloak
- c. Heaven

Answers page 18, column 1

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 17591 will appear next Saturday

WEATHER Much of Scotland and Northern Ireland will be rather cold and cloudy with rain. Clearer although showery weather will follow slowly eastwards. Most of England and Wales will be dry with some sunny intervals and, after a cold start it will become mild. Rain is likely in North Wales and the Scottish borders. Outlook: Dry and sunny with night frost and fog after rain in the South on Tuesday.

ABROAD

MONDAY: i=thunder; d=gizzle; lg=log; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F		C	F
Algeria	13	55	Luxembourg	9	41
Amsterdam	17	63	Madrid	15	59
Alexandria	19	66	Malaga	16	61
Algiers	17	63	Malta	15	59
Antwerp	10	50	Moscow	22	72
Bahrein	20	68	Munich	3	37
Batavia	7	45	Nairobi	15	59
Bombay	26	79	Paris	10	50
Buenos Aires	5	41	Rome	14	57
Calcutta	20	68	Saint Petersburg	15	59
Canton	13	55	Singapore	24	75
Cebu	26	79	Sofia	10	50
Colon	26	79	Stockholm	10	50
Hankow	13	55	Taipei	10	50
Hong Kong	26	79	Tientsin	10	50
Kobe	13	55	Yokohama	10	50
London	10	50			
Lyons	10	50			
Manila	26	79			
Medan	26	79			
Meppen	10	50			
Moscow	22	72			
Mumbai	26	79			
Nagasaki	10	50			
Nanking	10	50			
Norfolk	10	50			
Osaka	10	50			
Perth	10	50			
Portsmouth	10	50			
San Francisco	10	50			
Seoul	10	50			
Shanghai	10	50			
Singapore	24	75			
Sourabaya	26	79			
Tientsin	10	50			
Yokohama	10	50			

AROUND BRITAIN

	San	Rain	Mis
Scarborough	10	50	32
London	10	50	32
Southampton	10	50	32
Folkestone	10	50	32
Swansea	10	50	32
Cardiff	10	50	32
Belfast	10	50	32
Edinburgh	10	50	32
Glasgow	10	50	32
Manchester	10	50	32
Nottingham	10	50	32
Leeds	10	50	32
Sheffield	10	50	32
Coventry	10	50	32
Birmingham	10	50	32
Cardiff	10	50	32
Belfast	10	50	32
Edinburgh	10	50	32
Glasgow	10	50	32
Manchester	10	50	32
Nottingham	10	50	32
Leeds	10	50	32
Sheffield	10	50	32
Coventry	10	50	32
Birmingham	10	50	32

* Denotes figures not available

THE POUND

	Bank	Rate
Australia \$	2.24	11.5
Belgium F	2.25	11.5
Canada C	2.25	11.5
France F	2.25	11.5
Germany DM	2.25	11.5
Greece Dr	2.25	11.5
Italy L	2.25	11.5
Japan Yen	2.25	11.5
Netherlands Gld	2.25	11.5
Portugal Esc	2.25	11.5
Spain Ptas	2.25	11.5
Sweden Kr	2.25	11.5
Switzerland Fr	2.25	11.5
USA \$	2.25	11.5
Yugoslavia Dn	2.25	11.5

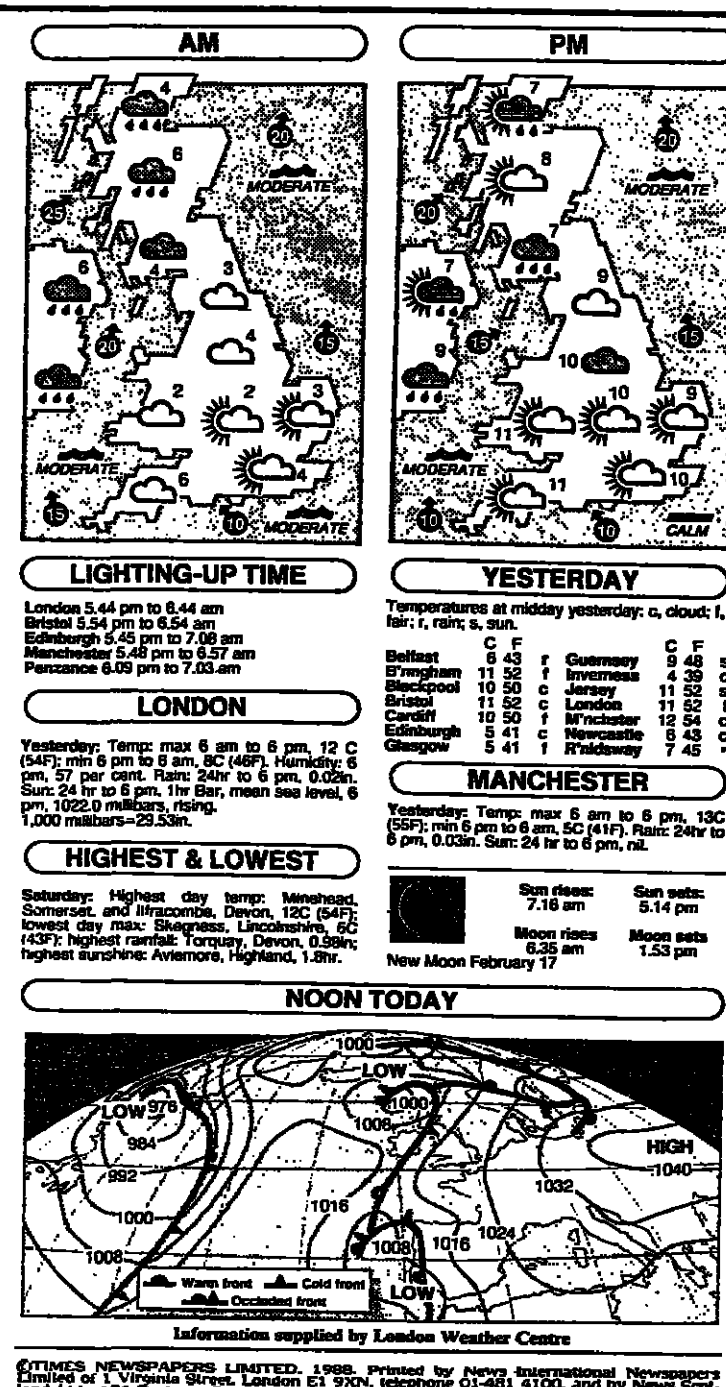
Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 103.3 (January)

London: The FT index closed up 4.0 at 335.0

New York: The Dow Jones Industrial average closed up 21.72 at 1963.26

Times are GMT



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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صلى الله عليه وسلم

ia herald
e trip with
rp attack

er Nato visit
modernization

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

(Change on week)

FT 30 Share

1385.0 (-2.1)

FT-SE 100

1734.0 (-3.8)

Bargains

20092 (30198)

USM (Datastream)

144.77 (-1.01)

THE POUND

(Change on week)

US dollar

1.7400 (-0.0155)

W German mark

2.9780 (-0.0028)

Trade-weighted

74.1 (-0.1)

US NOTEBOOK

Spending slowdown rings note of strength

From Maxwell Newton

New York

Another week of nerves and

mail-biting has ended with the

vital US economic and financial

signs in good shape.

The year-long decline in the

growth of real personal spending

has seemingly brought the

rise of imports under control.

The decisive break in consumer

spending that took place in

1987 produced a ceiling on imports

since June.

December nominal imports, at

\$37.0 billion, were virtually

unchanged from November and

well down from October's

horrible peak of \$39.4 billion.

Meanwhile, exports continued

to climb. By December, at

\$24.8 billion, they were up

17.5 per cent from June and

up 34 per cent from December

1986.

Although retail sales showed a

surprising rise of 0.5 per cent

in January and an even more

surprising revised increase of

1.2 per cent in December, retail

stocks continued to pile up very

rapidly.

Between August and December

seasonally adjusted retail sales

actually fell from \$128.9 billion

to \$127.5 billion. But over the

same period retail stocks rose

sharply from \$201.8 billion to

\$210.5 billion. Thus by December

the retail stocks-to-sales ratio

which a year ago stood at 1.46

and which in August was 1.47

had jumped to a record 1.65

times. Retailers, it seems, are

awash in excess stock.

This factor, together with the

rise in the dollar's value since

the opening of the year, may

cut imports.

The outlines of a classic retail

stock-cycle top, drawn so starkly

in the fourth-quarter national

income figures, have thus been

further delineated by the

December figures.

Inflation remains under good

control despite a disappointing

rise of 0.4 per cent in the

January producer price index.

This rise was offset by a

revised decline of 0.4 per cent

in December to produce an

overall fall of 0.2 per cent in

producer prices in the four

months since September.

Falling oil prices have played

a stout role in this price stability.

There was renewed weakness

in the crude oil futures on

Friday, when the March contract

fell under \$17 a barrel, the

result of excess stocks in the

US and weak European

demand.

Armed with the foreknowledge

of the improved December

trade deficit, the Federal Reserve

has allowed the rate on federal

funds (overnight money) to fall

from the February 3 level of 6.8

per cent to 6.5 per cent. The

money market is very flush

with cash and further reductions

in the prime rate were being

discussed.

But the early fears that the

Fed had let go the reins of

monetary control in January

were partly alleviated by the

news that in the week of

February 10 the monetary

base (currency plus banks' reserves)

had fallen from the February

3 peak of \$274 billion to

\$270.8 billion.

The bond market, however,

remained surly and unconvinced

on Friday. After losing ground

the previous day on fears of the

trade figures the bond prices

went down further on Friday.

This negative reaction may

have resulted from a reluctance

to take delivery of auction

bonds due for payment on

Tuesday.

Analysis 22 Jan Tracts 22

Gilt-Edged 22 Euro View 23

Money Markets 22 City Diary 23

Foreign Exch. 22 Share Prices 24

Pagoda winner for tanks that are too hot to handle

By David Sapped

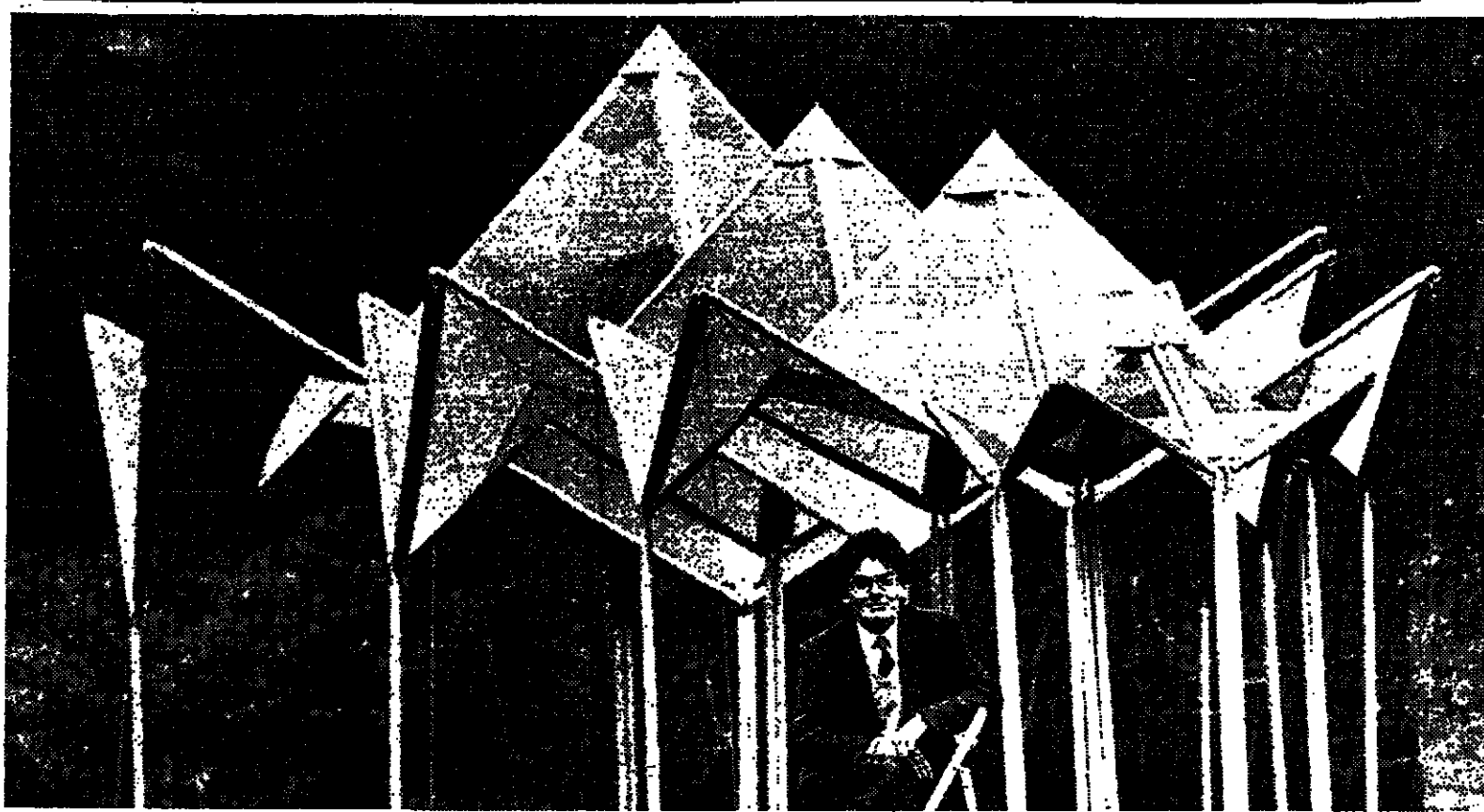
Traditional bedouin tents are facing a new and startling rival in the desert — a high-tech 'space cover' produced by a fledgling company in the chilly climes of Stroud in Gloucestershire.

The company, which is little more than a year old and bases the design of its revolutionary tent on a pyramid frame of aluminium, had sales totalling £2.7 million last year and has just been awarded a 1988 British Design Award.

Several Arab states, including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Oman, have been among a score of countries queuing to buy the Pagoda tents, mainly because they are capable of housing a Centurion tank in the desert.

Mr Nigel Browne, the managing director of Nomad Structures International, said that the pagoda is particularly useful in the desert because it is light, and easy to erect.

Without the benefit of the tents, which can have camouflage and infra-red reflective coatings, the tanks would become too hot to be serviced comfortably during the fierce heat of the day.



Making millions selling high-tech tents to the Arabs: Nigel Browne, managing director of Nomad Structures International. (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Sales growth 'to slow down'

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The underlying growth rate of retail sales is likely to moderate, even though there were better-than-expected increases in January.

This is the conclusion of the Confederation of British Industry, after the latest survey of the distributive trades showed almost three quarters of retailers reporting sales in January higher than in the same month last year, and 61 per cent equally optimistic about February prospects. A month ago retailers had expected a slowdown in volume sales growth.

Altogether, 73 per cent of retailers reported January sales volumes higher, with only 6 per cent having seen declines. This follows government returns that showed retail sales holding up well

during December, against some expectations.

But Mr Nigel Whitaker, chairman of the CBI's distributive trades survey panel, said: "These reported increases must be seen against the background of the previous January's arctic weather conditions, which adversely affected the good business usually enjoyed from New Year sales." January this year, on the other hand, has been relatively mild in many areas.

For February few retailers anticipate a downturn compared with February last year, with 35 per cent expecting sales to remain at about the same level as last year.

Mr Whitaker said: "Expectations for February suggest that the steadier growth in sales we have seen in the last

few months is likely to continue. Although it appears that the growth of consumer expenditure has been little affected by the stock market fall, the rate of increase is likely to slow. This suggests that although the solid increases in retail sales should be maintained, the underlying rate of growth is likely to continue to moderate."

Best sales increases in January were reported in household durables, grocery and books and stationery. The greatest optimism about February prospects came from retailers of household durables, grocers and chemists.

Wholesalers foresee slower sales growth in February, although January improvements were also better than expected.

Savoy to hit back at THF in court

By Our City Staff

Trusthouse Forte, the hotel and restaurant chain, yesterday dismissed the Savoy Hotel group's moves to take the offensive this week against THF's long-running attempts to win control.

Savoy is lodging an affidavit in court, possibly today, claiming that THF's protracted legal campaign is selfishly motivated, and goes against the best interests of all Savoy's shareholders. It will not only attack THF's motives and tactics, but is expected to make several points critical of the company itself.

Mr Dennis Hearn, deputy chief executive of THF, said: "I can only think that what they are trying to do is to raise a smoke screen to avoid answering our own case against them. The suggestion that we are not acting in the interests of shareholders is rather funny since we own about 70 per cent of Savoy's shares."

Despite the size of its shareholding, THF owns only 42.3 per cent of Savoy's voting shares. The board of the Savoy controls more than 50 per cent of the votes.

THF has been pursuing Savoy since 1981, and currently has a case outstanding against the company alleging that Savoy has issued shares to a company called Interbar Nominees. A date has not yet been set for the case to come to court.

Blue Circle claims 50.01%

Blue Circle Industries appeared to have won the narrowest of victories in its £275 million bid for Birimid Quilcast over the weekend.

Birimid would not concede defeat yesterday and its adviser, SG Warburg, was checking that there had not been an error in counting shares.

By 1pm on Saturday, the closing time, Blue Circle claimed a total of 50.01 per cent of Birimid. This would represent a winning margin of only 9,323 shares out of a total of 72.3 million.

Ban threat after 2,500 firms fail to seek SRO backing

By Richard Thomson

Banking Correspondent

More than 2,500 securities and investment firms face being put out of business in the spring because they have not yet applied for authorization from their self-regulatory organization. There are only two more weeks to go before the deadline, the Securities and Investments Board said over the weekend.

The SIB said that it would be up to the Department of Trade and Industry to extend the February 27 deadline if many firms failed to meet it, but companies should not count on this. It accused companies of an "alarming level of dangerously misplaced complacency."

SIB officials, bewildered at the slowness and incompetence of many companies, said that hundreds of applications had been sent back because they were incorrectly filled in. If the firms involved had not resubmitted correct applications by the deadline, they could also face closure.

Shortfall in applications to SROs			
SRO	Existing members	Applications received	Expected total
FIMBRA	4,384	4,092	10,000
AFBD	147	34	300
IMRO	76	466	1,200
TSA	—	550 firms	800 firms
		16,000 individuals	33,600 individuals
LAUTRO	Not yet recognized	by SIB	

According to the SIB's calculations, about 2,700 investment companies had still not applied to the four main SROs. These are the Financial Intermediaries Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association, the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers, the Investment Managers Regulatory Organisation and The Securities Association.

Of the 33,600 applications from individuals expected to apply to the TSA, only half have been received.

While acknowledging that completing the forms may not be easy for many companies,

the SIB is apalled that half of the 4,092 applications received for Fimbria alone have been sent back incorrectly filled in.

Firms which have correctly applied by midnight on February 26 will then have their applications processed by their SROs.

If this process has not been completed by a date in April still to be announced, the companies will be given interim authorization. But firms which do not meet the February deadline may not be given interim authorization and would therefore have to stop trading.

USM REVIEW

Sloanes' decorator plans to rise

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

Osborne & Little, the Sloane Rangers' favourite home decorator, is planning a move from the Unlisted Securities Market to the main market within the next two or three months.

According to Sir Peter Osborne, who founded the wallpaper and soft furnishings group with Mr Antony Little, his designer brother-in-law, one of the forces driving them on to the main market has been the stock market crash.

Sir Peter says: "We have been advised to do so by our accountants, Coopers & Lybrand, on the grounds that the focus of attention is not going to be on the USM any more."

Sir Peter also revealed that he was in an acquisitive mood and is currently in talks with several companies. "We are looking for acquisitions," he says, "and the stock market crash has, if anything, made acquisitions easier because people are prepared to accept a lower price."

Osborne & Little was floated on the USM in February, 1985 at 125p a share. Its shares now stand at 252p each, its shares now stand at £16 million, capitalizing it at around £16 million. Analysts are looking for profits of more than £2 million for the full year, which ends in March, which, if satisfied, will

represent an impressive increase on the previous year's figure of £1.43 million.

Share Drug, the USM-quoted chemist chain, has enjoyed a renewed flurry of activity with the market sensing that the terms of a possible, agreed bid may be on the way. The shares closed on Friday at 315p — a rise on the week of 22p — having touched 323p. In the past two weeks alone, the shares have risen a hefty 54p.

Last month, the group announced that it was in bid talks with a mystery suitor.

USM prices ————— Page 22

The market's money is resting on a bid from Woolworth, which is hoping to start challenging Boots as Britain's biggest retailing chemist.

Last Monday, Woolworth published a strategy document for shareholders and the City outlining its plans. The document made it clear that Woolworth intends to become the leading chemist in the high street. It has already gone some way to achieving that goal.

Share Drug has been one of the USM's success stories. It came to market in 1984 at 140p a share with around 40 stores. That figure will soon be swelled to 165

with pretax profits last year climbing from £1.79 million to £2.2 million, on turnover around £15 million higher at £50.1 million. At present levels, Share Drug is valued at almost £50 million.

Full-year figures soon from Trencherwood, the Newbury housebuilder, should make pleasant reading, according to the company's new broker, Phillips & Drew, in a review of the company, last week. P&D is looking for pretax profits to leap from £4.2 million to £7.3 million for the year which ended in October where the prospective p/e falls from 19.9 to 12.6.

Trencherwood's record since it joined the USM in 1984 at 145p has been impressive and it is now capitalized at £82 million. It has enjoyed strong profits growth and, according to P&D, the best is still to come.

The jewel in Trencherwood's crown is its extensive land bank along the M4 corridor. Phillips & Drew says this covers an estimated 3,900 plots (with planning permission), either owned or under option. This is the equivalent of eight years' supply at present output levels. Pretax profits for the current year are expected to grow to £10 million which has still to be reflected in the share price, unchanged at 297p on Friday.

Saunders in battle over legal bill

By Lawrence Lever

Mr Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chief, is locked in a dispute with his former solicitor Payne Hicks Beach, which is refusing to hand over files vital to legal proceedings he is facing until he pays the firm's bill.

Mr Saunders, who is due to re-appear at Bow Street magistrates court next month, has fallen out with the solicitor over the bill's size.

The bill, which includes such disbursements as barristers' fees, is believed to be more than £500,000.

Mr Saunders, who is understood to have paid the firm at least £250,000 on account, considers that the full amount is not justified. Payne Hicks disagrees.

As a result, Mr Saunders has switched to Landau & Landau, a solicitor with three partners which handled the sale of his Buckinghamshire home.

Mr Norman Turner, of Landau & Landau, said yesterday that Mr Saunders "is close to running out of money".

Referring to the criminal charges faced by Mr Saunders, he added: "His big problem is whether he is going to survive the strain of the trial."

Payne Hicks had represented Mr Saunders since the beginning of last year. It acted for him on matters such as the Department of Trade inquiry, the Guinness claim for £5.2 million against Mr Saunders and a fellow former director, Mr Thomas Ward, and on the criminal charges.

Mr Saunders still faces further substantial legal fees in both the civil and criminal proceedings in which he is involved.

The police evidence in the criminal charges already runs to between 8,000 and 1,000 pages and is expected to amount to 25,000 pages by the time of the criminal proceedings.

Mr Saunders is also appealing against last month's refusal by the High Court to suspend the £5.2 million legal action against him.

If he runs out of money, he can apply for legal aid. However, it is unlikely that the legal aid authorities would agree to pay for the kind of international investigations that both the civil and criminal proceedings involve.

Any legal aid order would not cover costs already incurred.

No one was available at Payne Hicks for comment yesterday.

MORTGAGES

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ANALYSIS

Banks retain their discreet charm despite provisions

Last year will go down in history as the one in which the big four clearing banks tripped themselves up. Midland will lead the way by announcing the biggest loss ever suffered by a British clearing bank when it announces its results on Thursday.

Next week Lloyds will also announce a substantial loss while Barclays and National Westminster will escape with severely reduced profits. The experience will have changed the way bankers and their supervisors look at their business and the way investors look at the banks.

The reason, of course, is the fashion of making huge provisions against Third World debt. This has complicated the annual ritual of predicting the banks' year-end results. One analyst said: "There are so many unpredictable variables in the figures this time that detailed monitoring of the figures is likely to prove not only time consuming, but also a bit of a waste of time."

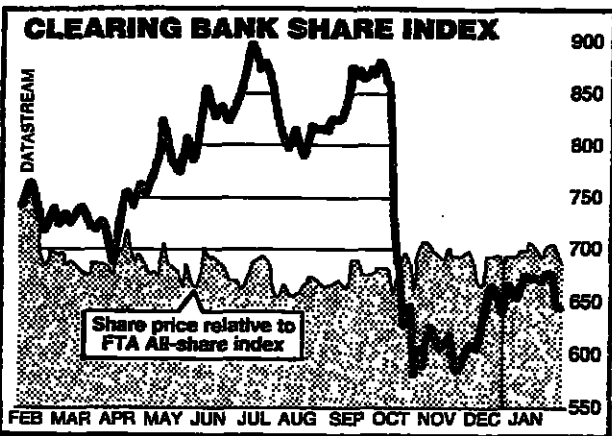
Hear, hear. The disparity in brokers' profit estimates testifies to the confusion in the stock market. But mercifully, bank bad debt provisions are probably less of a problem now than they were at the half-year stage last summer. That was when the banks were first moving into the new provisioning era, boosting their loan reserves to 25 or 30 per cent.

But most insiders do not now believe they will make any further substantial increases at the year-end. For one thing, the authorities have been pressing them not to. For another, Lloyds and Midland cannot really afford to.

Additionally the loan loss reserves have already been more than discounted by the stock market. This year bank shares have not staged their traditional seasonal rally ahead of the year-end results. Instead they have tended to drift lower in a mood of inertia. Paradoxically, that has left the banks looking like remarkably good buys in relation to much of the rest of the market.

"Share prices have already discounted bad debt provisions of 50 per cent - which banks are unlikely to reach for two or three years at least," said Mr Nick Collier, banking analyst for Hoare Govett.

1987 Profit Estimates for Clearing Banks (£m)				
Barclays	Lloyds	Midland	Nat West	
1986	755	435	515	480
1987	800	(351)	(235)	(250)
1988	1011	(489)	(375)	(470)
		740	885	820



By any standards, yields are very high. The prospective yield for NatWest is about 5.5 per cent, the lowest of the sector. The others are above 6.5 per cent, with Lloyds as high as 7.6 per cent on some estimates. That is some 40 per cent above the FT All-Share Index. Clearly there is an opportunity here for bold investors.

For boldness is still required, since brokers have been downgrading their profit estimates for the banks in recent weeks. This is very much the result of the uncertainty over Third World debt.

Two months ago Brazil seemed ready to rejoin the good boys and start repaying interest, including the amount owed from last year's repayment moratorium. Since then it has back-tracked and the banks, which have all adopted a cash-accounting method for the Brazilian debt (crediting the interest only when it arrives), have been affected.

Midland, with the biggest exposure to Latin America, is likely to suffer a loss in interest income of about £40 million, and the other banks will suffer proportionately.

On top of that come a number of imponderables. NatWest, for example, reported an impressive £50 million profit on sales of gold-edged stock which may not necessarily be repeated in the second half.

There are also the notorious losses suffered by the securities operations of both NatWest and Barclays. Barclays de Zoete Wedd is likely to emerge from this in a slightly better condition. Thanks to an impressive £25 million profit at the half-way stage, its overall loss in the market crash was some £18 million.

Although a final loss for the year looks probable, BZW has "picked itself up" quickly, since the crash, according to Sir Martin Jacobson, the chairman. But County NatWest took losses of about £80 million - mainly on underwriting Blue Arrow shares - and will have found it hard to retrieve the situation by the end of the year.

However, despite these setbacks, the banks are all expected to show a continued strong performance in domestic British banking which has proved to be the motor behind their profits over the last few years. Lending has continued to move ahead strongly - by an average of more than 20 per cent. Barclays, in particular, has been working hard to boost its lending after suffering heavily from a lending cutback in 1986.

The fly in the ointment here is that the greatest rise was in mortgage lending. This is low-

margin business, yielding about 2 per cent compared with up to 10 per cent on unsecured personal loans. That will not flatter the interest income of the banks.

But set against that is the very low default rate on home loans, and the huge opportunities to cross-sell other products such as insurance. To a significant extent, the lost opportunity on interest is made up in fee and commission income from selling related services.

A relatively healthy underlying performance, excluding Third World debt, is therefore on the cards for the big four. On these criteria, Midland still looks an attractive recovery prospect after its capital restructuring last year and its protective link with Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation which should give Sir Kit McMahon and his Midland team freedom to concentrate on running their business.

Barclays also seems well placed, with its new air of confidence under Mr John Quinton, the chairman, although the drive to boost lending may not show through significantly in its profits yet. NatWest still retains its position as the blue chip stock of the sector.

For these reasons, there is no question of the banks cutting their dividends despite losses or reduced profits. Bad debt provisions are already coming to be regarded by investors and bankers as something of a game, a slick accounting device divorced from the realities of underlying banking performance. That, together with the weakness of bank stocks already, should keep shares from falling any further when the results are announced.

Indeed, once all the nastiness of extra provisions is out in the open, the sector may well stage a modest rally.

Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

New Rover plan will not seek state cash

By Daniel Ward
Motor Industry Correspondent

Lord Young of Gifford, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, is expected next month to approve the Rover Group corporate plan which sets out the company's future for the next five years.

Twelve months ago the plan, the first under Mr Graham Day's chairmanship at Rover, called for the injection of £750 million of government money to wipe the slate clean for Leyland Trucks' merger with the Rover Group. The plan, however, was rejected by the Government to provide a reduced £680 million, bringing the historic losses to £2.68 billion.

The latest plan will make no demands on government funds because Rover will announce an operating profit for 1987 in April. The state-owned group last made a net profit in 1984 when an operating loss was reversed by the £163 million proceeds from the privatization of Jaguar.

Mr Day will have emphasized to ministers that last year saw considerable improvements. Austin Rover production of cars and vans rose by 14 per cent to 468,000 compared with 1986 and car output hit a nine-year high. However, exports were 13,000 short of the ambitious target of 150,000 cars.

Overshadowing Mr Day's plan, formulated by a handful of experts to prevent leaks of information, is the preparation of plans for Rover's privatization, which Lord Young expects to take place within the life of this Government. The proposals were expected to be with the Department of Trade and Industry by "early in the New Year" but have not yet arrived on Lord Young's desk.

Only if Rover manages to retain some independence will it be able to implement the five-year plan now in front of the 12 government officials who look after the state interest in Rover. Mr Day's chief strategist, Mr Mike Carver, Rover executive group director, has already said the company wants to go it alone, with just a 20 per cent stake taken by a rival.

Balance of payments is the biggest danger

GILT-EDGED

The prospect of a major balance of payments crisis remains the single most important danger for the gilt-edged market in 1988. It is surprising, therefore, that the market has adopted an almost complacent attitude to the possibility. Competitive forecasting of ever higher deficits may have numbed the senses. But the re-emergence of the external constraint will be increasingly important in framing monetary policy through the year.

How serious is the problem? In 1987 the current account deteriorated in every quarter, a pattern that may be repeated this year. Due to seasonal factors and changes in customs practices, the first quarter could show an improvement and thereby, null the market into a false sense of security. Even so, a deteriorating trend in the non-oil trade deficit has clearly set in.

The manufacturing deficit looks set to worsen further due to two critical factors. The first is the UK's competitive position. The restrained growth in unit labour costs in 1987 owed a great deal to rapid productivity growth in production. In 1988 production will grow less rapidly, productivity gains will slow, and unit labour costs growth could move up from 0.7 per cent for the first 10 months of 1987 to 4 per cent by the spring of 1988.

Meanwhile, with sterling shadowing the EMS, according to the Chancellor, the exchange rate will not be allowed to come to the rescue on present policies. Further evidence of the problem has been provided by recent CBI survey data, which were gloomy on export prospects.

The second factor is the strength of domestic demand in the UK relative to its main trading partners. For example, in its December *Economic Outlook* the OECD forecast real domestic demand growth of 3 1/2 per cent in the UK, 2 1/2 per cent for the EEC as a whole and only 1 per cent for the US. Under those circumstances the trend for the UK trade deficit has only one direction to go.

Furthermore, the invisibles surplus was some £500 mil-

lion down in 1987 compared with 1986 on the initial estimates, and may well be lower still in 1988. The dollar's weakness, which reduced the sterling value of dollar earnings, was one important factor, and it is worth bearing in mind that the central banks may be trying to cap the dollar as well as support it. The oil surplus will also be reduced this year by the weakness of the US dollar oil price and the long-term decline in North Sea oil production.

But this much should already be well known, and yet the market has paid scant attention to two consecutive monthly current account deficits of nearly £600 million. Some optimists have put forward arguments to suggest that the current account deficit will still be low as a proportion of GDP. It is small beer compared with the United States' trade problem, and the Bank of England has ample reserves to defend the pound, if need be. The clincher is the Lawson argument that the deficit on the current account is merely the result of the UK's exceptional growth, and will be reduced as UK growth slows and economic growth elsewhere picks up.

A moment's thought provides some obvious rebuttals. Crucial is the realization that it is the trend that matters. The comparison with the US is scarcely any comfort, especially since trade volumes are improving in the US and deteriorating in the UK. Defending the pound with our ample reserves also makes little sense, other than as a temporary measure, since it would only allow the external deterioration to continue.

The Lawson argument also came in for criticism in last week's Bank of England *Quarterly Bulletin*, where the Bank questioned, in the context of the current account, "the sustainability of growth of domestic demand in this country at a rate above that currently being achieved by most other major countries."

Against the background of rising domestic cost pressures

and a deteriorating trade position, the authorities will be faced with a difficult balancing act to restrain inflation while maintaining competitiveness.

On the fiscal front this is likely to involve a cautious Budget. A projected surplus of at least £2 billion is likely, incorporating a cautious revenue estimate, and with tax cuts probably less than generally assumed. But the onus for adjustment will inevitably fall on monetary policy and hence short-term interest rates.

Over the next few months we expect policy to remain tight to combat rapid credit growth and labour market tightness. The recent upward trend in interest rates and the Chancellor's affirmation of our cash-EMS membership confirm this.

Further out the plot thickens. We suspect the authorities may eventually be forced to condone a depreciation of sterling on the lines of 1986. This can come about through a fall in sterling on current account trends, or a market perception that the authorities would prefer a lower exchange rate. Either way the policy is fraught with danger and is likely to lead to a lower exchange rate and higher interest rates.

A major problem for the gilt market under this scenario would be the behaviour of overseas investors. In 1987 the overseas sector's net purchases of gilts amounted to almost £5 1/2 billion, compared with a relatively minuscule £60 million by domestic residents excluding banks. The re-emergence of sterling as a risk currency would drastically change this and could lead to double-digit yields.

In the short term the prospect of a budget surplus with limited supply of new stock should provide support for the market. But a serious rally is unlikely until the uncertainty over base rates is resolved, especially as another large rise in bank lending is in prospect on Thursday.

David Wileman and
Dick Howard
Capel-Cure Myers/BNZ
Merchant Bank

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Starting index compared with 1975 was down at 74.1 (day's range 74.1-74.4).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for February 12

Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New York	1.7390-1.7395	1.7395-1.7405	0.33-0.30p
London	1.7390-1.7395	1.7395-1.7405	0.33-0.30p
Amsterdam	3.3397-3.3407	3.3402-3.3407	1.10-1.13p
Brussels	62.16-62.53	62.19-62.41	21-30p
Copenhagen	11.570-11.571	11.570-11.571	4p-4p
Dallas	1.1157-1.1161	1.1157-1.1161	11-11p
Frankfurt	2.9748-2.9850	2.9772-2.9832	4p-4p
Hong Kong	24.14-24.15	24.14-24.15	2p-2p
Madrid	200.57-201.02	200.91-201.43	2p-2p
Mexico	219.14-220.73	219.17-219.74	1p-1p
Osaka	11.2461-11.2462	11.2461-11.2462	12p-12p
Paris	10.0514-10.0522	10.0543-10.0570	2p-2p
Stockholm	10.5857-10.5858	10.5858-10.5859	1p-1p
Tokyo	227.62-227.63	227.62-227.63	1p-1p
Vienna	20.80-20.82	20.80-20.82	8p-8p
Zurich	2.4434-2.4436	2.4434-2.4436	1p-1p

Premiums & discounts as shown.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral	9.9180-10.0108
Australia dollar	2.4572-2.4622
Belgian franc	0.5353-0.5375
Brazil cruzeiro	164.08-164.83
Cypriot pound	0.5700-0.5800
Deutsche mark	2.24-2.25
French franc	6.55-6.56
Italian lira	1.36-1.37
Japanese yen	160.00-160.25
South African rand	4.80-4.81
Swedish krona	4.60-4.61
Swiss franc	2.00-2.01
Thai baht	20.00-20.01
US dollar	1.00-1.01

*Lloyds Bank, Reuters, and other sources.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Country	Rate
Ireland	1.5510-1.5540
Switzerland	2.0150-2.0250
Malaysia	1.4000-1.4010
Australia	0.7005-0.7075
Canada	1.2800-1.2840
Sweden	1.3800-1.3820
Norway	0.4800-0.4800

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank, HOPEX and Ecol.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %	Clearing Banks 9	Finance House 9
Discount Market Loans %	1.00-2.00	2.00-3.00
Overnight High/Low 3 Week	8.00/7.50	8.00/7.50
Treasury Bills (Discount %)		
Buying: 2 mth - 8 1/4		
Selling: 2 mth - 8 1/4		
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)		
1 mth: 8 1/4-8 1/2		
3 mth: 8 1/4-8 1/2		
6 mth: 8 1/4-8 1/2		
12 mth: 8 1/4-8 1/2		
Local Authority Deposits (%)		
1 mth: 8 1/4		
3 mth: 8 1/4		
6 mth: 8 1/4		
12 mth: 8 1/4		
Interbank (%)		
1 mth: 8 1/4		
3 mth: 8 1/4		
6 mth: 8 1/4		
12 mth: 8 1/4		
Local Authority Bills (%)		
1 mth: 8 1/4		
3 mth: 8 1/4		
6 mth: 8 1/4		
12 mth: 8 1/4		
Local Authority Bonds (%)		
1 mth: 8 1/4		
3 mth: 8 1/4		
6 mth: 8 1/4		
12 mth: 8 1/4		

Applicable to £100m. Discount 25%.

Next week: 8.7500%.

Next week: 8.7500%.

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TREASURY BILLS

Applicable to £100m.

Discount 25%.

Next week: 8.7500%.

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7,836.00 A & M Go	13
19.2m ASD	266
8,121.00 ATA Selection	68
22.5m Abbotsford	175
5,780.00 Aberdeen 3th Hse	48
Access Satellites	..
17.5m Accuri Comp	27
7,556.00 Acme Group	55
12.4m Acroping	205
5,982.00 Ald Restaurants	61
28.7m Amer Bus Sys	77
Do Writs	48
10.2m Andler	175
42.7m App Holographics	305
Do Writs	259
108.7m Argo	88

Financial services top priority in quest for a Single Market

By Colin Narborough
Mr Francis Maude, the Corporate Affairs Minister, is in a hurry to spread the word of a truly Common Market in Europe to the business community and beyond.

Awarded the task of thrashing out the details of dismantling barriers to trade in goods and services by 1992, Mr Maude will be giving priority to removing barriers in financial services, the sector that has been so beneficial to the British balance of payments.

Despite the poor timing of the announcement that he was

dropping his consumer affairs brief, there is no suggestion that Mr Maude has been demoted. On the contrary, his new responsibility for the EEC Single Market would indicate that Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has entrusted his junior minister with a top priority job.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Maude said his top priority in negotiations in Brussels would be liberalizing financial services in Europe.

He is under no illusion as to how much Britain will be able to get its own way, now that

majority voting has become the order of the day in the councils of Europe.

"We'll have to spend our credit wisely," Mr Maude said. Minor British interests would have to be sacrificed, but at the moment Britain was making the pace, he said, pointing to successes in opening up the insurance sector.

The importance the Government now places in liberalizing the EEC market in financial services is, however, not to be misread solely as a means of protecting the City.

Mr Maude saw no grounds for believing that a Single

Market in Europe would lead to the predominance of London financial services. Amsterdam, for instance, offered the biggest options market in the world outside Chicago, and there was no reason to believe that such specialization would not continue after 1992.

On the issue of regulation, Mr Maude wholeheartedly embraced Lord Young's view that Europe must operate with a "light hand" and impose no new restrictions on the business world.

"You don't think anyone wants a European securities

and investments board," Mr Maude said. Neutral recognition of regulatory standards was the way forward, not dikts from bureaucrats in Brussels.

Britain wanted any company seeking to do business here to have to satisfy the regulatory authorities that it could comply with British rules.

Mr Maude was unable to say whether things would be better or worse for British business after 1992. Clearly, it is up to British firms to make sure they can fend for themselves.

Horizon's reasons to be cheerful

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor
For a package tour operator caught in the midst of a price war, Mr Bob Muckleston, chief executive of Horizon Travel, is unusually relaxed. There are several reasons.

One is that January has seen advance bookings for next summer showing a marked improvement after a limp November and December. At least that is Horizon's experience, according to Mr Muckleston. "Weekly bookings totals have been 50 per cent up on last year at the same time. We have made up all we have lost. We seem to be outperforming the market."

The bookings losses towards the end of last year were shared with Thomson Holidays, the market leader, when Thomson and Horizon in particular were outmanoeuvred by Mr Harry Goodman's International Leisure Group at the time summer 1988 brochures were launched last autumn.

ILG, whose subsidiaries include Intasun, packed into its brochures a series of special deals for families, with advantageous prices from regional airports. These expanded ILG sales so fast that Thomson and then Horizon relaunched their holidays with prices to match the challenge.

Another reason is that Horizon, the third largest package holiday operator in Britain, now has behind it the strength of Bass, the country's biggest brewer. That is comforting when traditional profit margins are eroded by tough competition, as they were last



Cool under pressure: Horizon's Bob Muckleston

year and look likely to be this summer.

There is a third reason why Mr Muckleston is more optimistic about Horizon's future. The top two operators had been dangerously ahead of Horizon in market share. Thomson with nearly a third of the market and ILG with about a fifth.

But Horizon's acquisition last spring of the Wings-OSL package holidays subsidiary of the Rank Organisation means the Horizon market share stands at 13 per cent in package holidays and 16 per cent overall, if a seats-only

sales operation which came with the Wings acquisition is taken into account.

Back in 1985, when Horizon carried 330,000 holiday-makers, a three-year plan looked to this rising to 750,000 during 1987. Horizon neared that figure in 1986 and last year was just short of 1 million. This year, benefiting from the acquisition, the forecast is for approaching 1.3 million.

Mr Muckleston regards that level as a watershed, giving Horizon sufficient volume to be able to compete fully with the top two operators. That

offers the chance of organic growth for Horizon, while the trend is likely to continue for bigger operators to take more market share from the medium-sized, still competing in the specialist sector. More penetration into specialist markets by the bigger operators is also on the cards.

Now the bookings are flowing again Mr Muckleston is forecasting an increase in the package tour market this year of 5 per cent. He believes this more realistic than earlier forecasts in the trade that 1988 would see 7 per cent growth.

But will the price wars go on? Mr Muckleston said: "As long as this industry continues to impress on people that they should go for the lowest price, then the customers will get more and more dissatisfied as quality suffers. Disillusioned, they will start spending their money on something else. The main thrust of the tour operators should be to improve the quality of holidays while giving value for money."

Taking that route, the next three years could see consolidation in the industry, with improved profit margins, said Mr Muckleston.

Wings has taken Horizon more strongly into the long-haul business. Mr Muckleston said: "Horizon is 50 per cent up in this sector and long haul in three years should be a significant business as pretty steady growth continues to come through." He believes this sector will see a doubling in size over the next three years or so provided aviation fuel costs remain steady.

Electricity 'safe for investors'

By Rodney Hobson

A privatized electricity industry will offer a safe home for investment despite the stock market crash, the Electricity Consumers' Council says in a report today.

Even with regulations to ensure that the interests of shareholders do not come before those of the industry's 22 million customers, "a privatized electricity supply industry, particularly the distribution companies, will offer security-conscious investors steady financial returns and a safe home for their money."

The report says the industry is "already highly profitable, and for a substantially low-risk, uncompetitive market, produces a return on capital which compares favourably with the corporate sector."

A warning is given that the decision to increase electricity prices, announced by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Energy, is due less to the need to invest in a large-scale plant programme than to the wish to maximize privatization proceeds.

The report concludes: "This will increase the resources available for redistribution among taxpayers. The result is that today's consumers are being asked to underwrite privatization."

Privatizing Electricity - A Chance for Change? Electricity Consumers' Council, Brook House, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7LL.

Industrial disputes cause less economic damage

By Our Economics Editor
If the Ford strike lasts as long as its last big stoppage nearly 10 years ago it is still not likely to make much difference to recent trends in the number of working days lost through strikes in the economy as a whole.

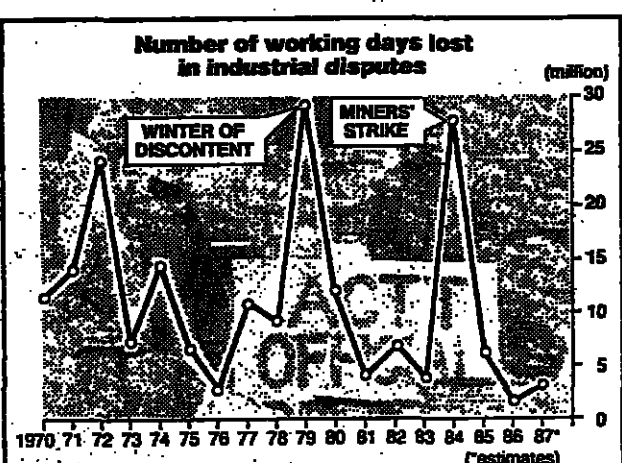
Industrial disputes have been considerably less damaging to the economy during the 1980s than in the 1970s. Compared with the "winter of discontent" in the final year of the Callaghan government the present rash of industrial unrest is on a small scale.

A Department of Employment analysis confirms that the pattern of disputes shows a strong seasonal trend. Strikes are relatively rare in November and December as workers save up for Christmas and are also fewer during the summer

The peak period for disputes tends to be in the first quarter of the year. By January negotiations begun in the new pay round in the autumn have had time to harden while in some industries winter also offers the time of maximum industrial leverage.

So far the disputes involving the nurses, the ferries and the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfriers (Nacods) in the coalfields have had a negligible effect on output. They have involved relatively small numbers of workers for short periods of time.

The Ford dispute as an all-out strike involving 32,500 workers is in a different category. If it lasts for as long as the last big dispute which extended over eight weeks



then the number of days lost would amount to about 1.3 million, or more than a third of last year's total for the economy as a whole.

It is also likely to affect

British suppliers, and it could affect the balance of payments where the growing deficit has already caused the City intermittent alarm. A month's production at Ford is worth £350 million to £400 million.

Nevertheless, if the strike is settled in the next few weeks it will not necessarily bring the total number of working days lost in the economy above last year's level because January and February were bad months in 1987 because of the British Telecom dispute. With 112,000 engineers and 19,000 clerical workers involved, the BT dispute had a significantly bigger impact on the number of days lost than would an eight-week Ford strike.

Last year saw an increase in the days lost to about 3.5 million (final figures are due this month) from a low of less than 2 million in 1986. But last year was still the second lowest total of the 1980s.

The average number of days lost each year during the 1980s has been 8.03 million, or 5.22 million excluding the miners' strike.

Rising star changes trajectory

John Antcliffe, the Conservative Party candidate who unsuccessfully fought both a by-election and general election in his native Greenwich against SDP candidate Rosie Barnes, and one of the rising corporate finance stars at NIM Rothschild, is, I hear, jacking it all in to join Polly Peck, run by Asil Nadir. Antcliffe, still only 26, has been with the merchant bank since he graduated from Cambridge six years ago with a history degree. He will join oranges-to-television company Polly Peck - Rothschild has long been its adviser - as group corporate manager, reporting to managing director Mark Ellis. "I have always rather liked the idea of being at the sharp end of business," Antcliffe tells me. "There aren't many companies I would give up working at Rothschild for, but Polly Peck is one. I will be shadowing Ellis, helping with investor relations as well as corporate finance." At Rothschild, as well as advising Polly Peck - he was involved in its £42 million rights issue - Antcliffe was in a team of six who advised the Energy Department on British Gas, and the Treasury on BP. But his political aspirations have not been abandoned. Still a Tory representative for Blackheath on Greenwich Council, he admits he is keeping one eye open for parliamentary seats. "Polly Peck is fully aware of my ambitions. Whether they are fulfilled in four, eight or 12 years remains to be seen."

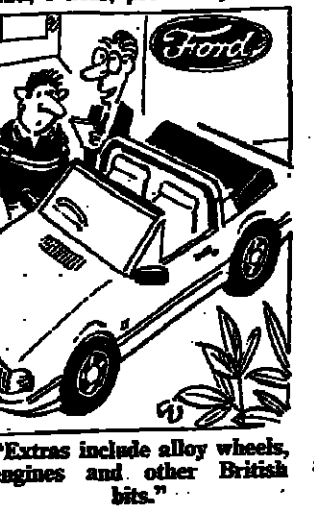
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Revenge on the bears

In the aftermath of the stock market crash, with volume in even front-line stocks down to a trickle, prospects for the Third Market Show at Whitebread's Chiswell Street brewery last week were never good. Despite the attraction of a record 50 or so stands, only a handful of visitors called in. "It was a bit like a graveyard," admitted exhibitor Jonathan Silverman, a partner in a Fleet

Street law firm. But he tells me that Leadenhall PR set up a novel shooting gallery with teddy bears as the target, to amuse bored fellow exhibitors. "If you shot the bear it squeaked and you got a teddy bear as a prize," Silverman said. Apparently the act of shooting the bears gave the frustrated exhibitors great satisfaction - since they were blamed for spoiling the show.

Family matters
The appointment of Alan Budd as economic adviser to Barclays Bank must have taken some persuasion. Professor Budd, who will be leaving his academic post at the London Business School for pastures new on August 1, had, I hear, previously been



dissuaded from joining the commercial hurly-burly because of the prospect of not being able to take his children to school in the morning. But he tells me that he has now reached a compromise - by taking them to the station on his way to the City each day. It will be interesting to see how the family-minded Budd, who describes himself as "basically a herbivore," makes out in the distinctly carnivorous environment of the markets.

Pilkington recruit

Pilkington will today reveal that it has strengthened its board by appointing its first American non-executive director, John Macomber. Macomber, just turned 60 and a native New Yorker, spent 20 years in London and Paris working for management consultants McKinsey, before becoming chief executive of Wall Street-quoted chemical company Celanese, a post he held until the company was taken over by Hoechst in a \$3 billion deal. During his time at Celanese the share price increased ten-fold, and since then he has been working on his own. "I'm now into my third career," he tells me. The Pilkington appointment follows a chance introduction to chairman Antony Pilkington last summer, through "mutual friends". Macomber says: "I was very impressed by him and the company, and I'm very bullish about Europe - the time for growth and investment in Britain is as good as it's ever been." As well as advising Pilkington on any future US acquisitions, he will continue as vice-chairman at Rockefeller University in New York, and as a director of the Carnegie Institute.

● Roger Bootle, economic adviser to Lloyds Merchant Bank, is, I hear, becoming a consultant with money-broking company Mayflower Group. As well as speaking to clients, he says he will "help the sales force put together financial packages in the light of ever-changing conditions."

Societies growth is 'fastest-ever'

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Building societies have successfully adapted to the increasingly intense competition from banks and other mortgage lenders during the 1980s, experiencing this decade their fastest-ever growth in assets and profitability, according to findings published today by the Building Societies Association (BSA).

In its latest *Bulletin* the BSA says that between 1981 and 1986 building society assets grew by 74 per cent, after adjusting for inflation. That compares with a real growth of only 17 per cent between 1976 and 1981 when asset growth was held back by very high rates of inflation.

Growth in the later period has also been faster because of the scrapping of the societies' recommended interest rate structure, promoting more competition in the industry. But asset growth is less important as a measure of performance now that societies are allowed to undertake a wider range of activities, the *Bulletin* says. Some societies may actually sacrifice asset

growth to generate higher fee income instead.

Profitability has also soared since 1981, rising to an average of £0.75 for every £100 on deposit compared with £0.63 over the five previous years.

Now that societies actively attempt to maximize profits - which they did not do in the earlier period - and with the abolition of the interest rate cartel, profit margins are a better measure of building society performance than it used to be, the BSA argues.

The changing financial climate has made a dramatic improvement in management expense ratios which have dropped from £1.27 for every £100 of deposits, during the inflationary late 1970s, to £1.10 since 1981. But with the widening of services, this ratio can be misleading as an indication of efficiency.

The BSA article also notes that building society capital ratios have improved rapidly, rising from 3.69 per cent to 4.22 per cent.

New chief for Ultramar

By Our City Staff

Mr John Darby, former chairman of Arthur Young, the chartered accountants, is to take over as chairman of Ultramar, the oil company, in July.

chairman, continues as chief executive.

Mr Darby has been an Ultramar director for three years. He is also chairman of the National Home Loans Corporation and Property Lending Trust.

Mr Lloyd Bensen, at present

ECONOMIC VIEW

Worth risking some losers to reform taxes

If there are any Irishmen among Nigel Lawson's officials they will know what advice to give the Chancellor on how to produce a radical Budget. The answer is: don't start from here. The main constraint facing the Chancellor in constructing a tax-reforming Budget is not the need for fiscal caution, important though that is, but the difficulty of getting from where we are now to where we might like to be.

Nowhere are the transitional problems greater than in reforming the higher rates of income tax. Given the uniquely favourable circumstances for tax reform this year Mr Lawson should do more than simply cut rates. He should seize the opportunity to remove anomalies and create a simpler and more logical tax system which is as neutral as possible between different spending or saving decisions by the taxpayer. But the practicalities of this are far from straightforward.

The principle behind the Government's attitude to direct taxes is clear, even if the practice has wavered. Marginal rates should be cut while at the same time the tax base is enlarged by scrapping away some of the exemptions which have become encrusted on it over the years.

Widening the base raises extra money, enabling the rates to be cut further. It limits the gains to individuals from rate reductions, which in the context of the higher rates makes the package politically easier to sell. And it maximizes incentives by limiting the cut in the taxpayer's average rate (which induces the comfortable feeling that he need work less hard) while increasing the cut in the marginal rate (which leaves more of any extra earnings in the earner's pocket, encouraging him to work harder).

Last week the Institute for Fiscal Studies in its *Green Budget* proposed a package which, as well as bringing the top rate down from 60 per cent to 50 per cent, limited mortgage interest relief and personal allowances to the basic rate. Although the Prime Minister has discouraged speculation about changes to mortgage interest relief, this package has the attraction that the tax system is simplified and incentives are maximized by limiting the fall in average rates while bringing down marginal rates.

The main disadvantage is that because allowances are limited, taxpayers at the top of the basic rate band find their taxable income increases enough to convert them up into higher rate payers. Analysis of the *Survey of Personal Incomes* recently made available by the Inland Revenue shows that even coupled with a 2p cut in the basic rate there could be about 840,000 losers. Raising the higher rate threshold by 40 per cent from its present £17,900 of taxable income to £25,060 would reduce the number of losers to only 30,000, but it

would increase the cost from £2.1 billion to £3.6 billion.

A much more radical alternative would be to offset some of the gains to higher rate taxpayers by harmonizing national insurance contributions paid by employees more closely with income tax. At present employees' contributions are levied on earned income between the lower earnings limit of £39 a week and an upper limit of £295, or £15,340 a year.

Between the upper earnings limit and the higher rate threshold of £17,900 of taxable income (perhaps £25,000 of gross income) the effective marginal rate drops eccentrically from 36 per cent (27 per cent income tax plus 9 per cent NICs) to 27 per cent, before rising again at the first higher rate threshold to 40 per cent.

Removing the upper limit and levying NICs on all earnings, as is now the rule for employers' NICs, would offset some of the incentive benefits of cutting higher rates of income tax. But it would simplify the system and produce a much smoother progression of marginal rates up the income scale.

Simulations by the IFS for *The Times* show that simply removing the upper limit for NICs, while it raises £2 billion of revenue, creates losers on a grand scale totalling about 1.94 million. However, combined with a cut in higher rates (to 30 per cent, 35 per cent and 40 per cent), 2p off the basic rate and a 10 per cent real increase in allowances, the number of losers falls to 270,000, though the full-year cost rises to about £6 billion. That would require at least £1 billion of extra revenue to be raised from indirect taxes or elsewhere to bring the first-year cost down to about £4 billion.

The problem area is the income band between the upper limit for NICs and the higher rate threshold. People in this band lose out from the extension of NICs but are unable to benefit from cuts in higher rates. Predictably 170,000 of the 270,000 losers from the package described above are in the income range £13,000 to £17,300, with a further 60,000 in the range £17,300 to £28,800.

Losses suffered by individual households peak at the top of the basic rate band. A married man earning £25,000 with mortgage interest of £3,000 would lose £392. Above that the 10 per cent cut in higher rates begins to offset the 9 per cent NICs and the man on £30,000 loses £311. Lower down at £20,000 the loss is just £59.

All these options present problems. But without a thorough-going reform of personal taxation to match the reform of corporate tax, the scope for bringing down the higher rates is likely to be limited.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Sought-after graduates can keep accountants waiting

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Graduates planning a career in accountancy are in such demand that firms are finding recruitment more difficult than usual this year - and the problem is set to become worse. Confident they are in a "seller's market", the graduates are taking a break after their studies and deferring job applications for up to 12 months.

Mr Charles Tilley, the partner responsible for staff recruitment at Peat Marwick McLintock, says that the firm's intake of 920 graduates last year was completed by March.

"But this year it is not so easy," he said. "We are having the same problem as all our competitors in this field. People are waiting for up to a year before applying and it is making our job harder."

This year, Peat Marwick McLintock - the biggest recruiter of graduates in the private sector - is taking on 1,023. Mr Tilley says he can see similar expansion and growth in recruitment going on for the next four or five years. "And that is during a

period when the graduate population will be steadily going down."

Mr Tilley realizes that if the firm's expansion goes on at its current rate, his problems will be enormous. He points out that in 1984, the company took on 700 graduates; in 1985, 800; in 1986, 825; and in 1987, 920.

Peat Marwick McLintock says it is willing, and can afford, to be flexible in its recruitment policy - deferring recruits for up to a year if they wish. In a recent survey, the company found that the first thing people look for at work is "interesting and challenging" job opportunities then - the overall package.

INSEAD MBA

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available to British citizens with a university degree or equivalent professional qualification.

This ten month programme starts in either September or January. 400 participants from 30 countries.

*Sainsbury Management Fellowship open to engineers of the highest calibre intending to pursue a career in industry.

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For information, contact:

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Admissions Office,
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France. Tel: (1) 60 72 42 73



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No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Cable & Robey	Building/Roads	1.00
2	SPP	Industrial S-Z	1.00
3	Crystalline	Electrical	1.00
4	Hoskyns	Electrical	1.00
5	Heaton Charlotte	Hotel/Catering	1.00
6	Br Arways (sa)	Industrial A-D	1.00
7	Brayco	Industrial A-D	1.00
8	Bespak	Industrial A-D	1.00
9	Unilever	Electrical	1.00
10	Armour	Industrial A-D	1.00
11	Brown & Tawse	Industrial A-D	1.00
12	Pontland Ind	Industrial L-R	1.00
13	Powell Duffryn	Industrial L-R	1.00
14	Benlox	Industrial A-D	1.00
15	Kover	Industrial A-D	1.00
16	Expanet	Industrial S-Z	1.00
17	Scapa	Industrial S-Z	1.00
18	Borland	Industrial S-Z	1.00
19	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	Building/Roads	1.00
20	Eurotherm	Industrial S-Z	1.00
21	Racal Elect (sa)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
22	VSEL	Industrial S-Z	1.00
23	Trent	Industrial S-Z	1.00
24	Costan	Industrial S-Z	1.00
25	Ladbrooke (sa)	Hotel/Catering	1.00
26	GKN (sa)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
27	Harwell Plc	Industrial S-Z	1.00
28	Chapman	Industrial S-Z	1.00
29	GEF	Industrial S-Z	1.00
30	Carlson Comm	Industrial S-Z	1.00
31	Scott TV	Industrial S-Z	1.00
32	Vickers	Industrial S-Z	1.00
33	Virgin	Industrial S-Z	1.00
34	Land Sea (sa)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
35	Land	Industrial S-Z	1.00
36	Br Telecom (sa)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
37	Whitman Revo	Industrial S-Z	1.00
38	Allied-Lyons (sa)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
39	Lookers	Industrial S-Z	1.00
40	UEI	Industrial S-Z	1.00
41	Wyndham Eng	Industrial S-Z	1.00
42	Pilkington (sa)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
43	ODT Group	Industrial S-Z	1.00
44	BOC (sa)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
45	Times Newspaper Ltd	Daily Total	1.00

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS	
Stock out- standing	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

UNDATED	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

INDEX-LINKED	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

ELECTRICALS	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

CINEMAS, TV	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

DRAPERY, STORES	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

HOTELS, CATERERS	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

S-Z	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

OILS, GAS	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

TOBACCO	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

SHOES, LEATHER	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

TEXTILES	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

MINING	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

LEISURE	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

INSURANCE	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

OVERSEAS TRADERS	
Stock	Price
£100	100.00
£100	100.00

Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end February 19. Settlement day February 22. Settlement day February 29.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (sa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
30.2m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
43.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
48.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
50.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
51.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
52.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
53.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
54.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
55.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
56.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
57.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
58.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
59.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
60.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
61.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
62.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
63.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
64.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
65.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
66.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
67.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
68.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
69.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
70.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
71.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
72.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
73.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
74.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
75.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
76.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
77.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
78.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
79.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
80.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
81.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
82.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
83.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
84.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
85.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
86.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
87.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
88.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
89.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
90.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
91.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
92.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
93.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
94.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
95.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
96.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
97.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
98.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
99.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
20.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
37.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
38.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
39.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
41.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
42.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
43.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
44.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
45.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
46.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
47.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
48.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
49.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
50.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
51.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
52.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
53.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
54.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
55.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
56.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
57.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
58.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
59.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
60.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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64.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
65.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
66.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
67.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
68.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
69.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
70.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
71.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
72.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
73.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
74.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
75.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
76.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
77.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
78.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
79.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
80.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
81.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
82.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
83.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
84.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
85.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
86.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
87.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
88.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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91.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
92.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
93.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
94.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
95.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
96.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
97.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
98.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
99.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
100.1m Res Ind	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BREWERIES					
2.49m Allied-Lyons (ad)	250	0.00	18.0	4.8	9.9
4.0m Asahi Breweries	100	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.0m Asahi Breweries	100	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
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4.0m Asahi Breweries	100	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.0m Asahi Breweries	100	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.0m Asahi Breweries	100	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.0m Asahi Breweries	100	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.0m Asahi Breweries	100	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
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4.0m Asahi Breweries	100	0.00	0.0	0.0	0

Listening in for the best catch

The growth of the cellular telephone in Britain has been spectacular, and it has even found a niche off-shore, reports Malcolm Brown

Some of the heaviest users of the UK's cellular radio system are not even British. The Belgians who fish off the South-east coast are buying British cellphones by the gross.

They use the phones to guide one another to the best fishing grounds and to keep in touch with market prices so they know the most profitable place to land their catches.

The service, routed from the Belgian boats through the British cell system to the continental ports, allows them total secrecy, something that was not possible with open radio links.

Business is so brisk now that at least one system retailer has set up shop in Holland to service all the fleets along the European coastline.

The growth of cellular radio in Britain has been spectacular. Before cellular was launched, in January 1985, the car phone was really just a rich businessman's toy and not much fun to play with — subscribers often waited interminably to make connections and even then found the quality low.

Cellular radio changed that. Instead of high-powered transmitters covering large areas, which left customers fighting to get on line, cellular radio divides the country up into a large number of small cells each with its own low-powered transmitter/receiver.

When a call is made, the nearest transmitter/receiver is contacted and the message sent on its way into the telephone network.

The trick with cellphones is that the system constantly monitors the strength of the signal and, as soon as the

caller's vehicle moves from one cell area to another, the call is automatically handed over to the next cell.

The Government licensed two operators, Cellnet and Vodafone, to provide the new system. When it began three years ago most people thought a total of 150,000 subscribers by the end of 1987 would be very creditable and 200,000 exceptional. In the event, according to market research company CIT Research, the subscriber figure at the end of December was 260,000.

Projecting ahead CIT reckons there could be 1.4 million British subscribers within a decade. John Carrington, director of British Telecom Mobile Communications (BTMC) who sits on the Cellnet board, is even more bullish.

He says that by the end of 1991 Britain will have the capacity to carry 1.5 million cellular customers and if everything goes right might well hit that target. Even on more pessimistic assumptions he thinks one million within four years is reasonable.

Others in the business are more cautious but Mr Carrington sticks by his figures. "All the projections that have ever been made, even the most bullish, have been exceeded," he says.

Whatever the final figures there is general agreement in the industry that the next boost to growth over the next few years will come from bulk sales to companies. The first people to buy cellphones were the self-employed and very senior people in companies — the chairman and chief executives.

Now that the system has proved its worth with the bosses they in turn are looking at how it can be used by their



employees — people like salesmen and maintenance engineers, who are constantly on the move.

Chris Gent, managing director of Racal-Vodafone, thinks that by 1990 about 80 per cent of the business will come from mass orders by big companies. "Once one does it the others can't afford to be at a competitive disadvantage, so they will invest."

The next key date for the industry will be autumn 1991, when the pan-European cell-phone network should be up and running. While cellular radio is growing strongly in several European countries it is a technological mish-mash, with each country's system being incompatible with the others.

There are at least five different systems. So while a British handset can be used to dial anywhere in the world from Britain it cannot be used in France or Germany or Italy where the technology is quite different. By 1991 the whole of Europe should be starting to use the same system.

The importance of the pan-European system for operators like Cellnet and Vodafone is not that they will be able to set up networks in Europe.

By and large each country's network of cells will still be operated by the nationals of that country (many of them by the state telecommunications authority).

But the pan-European system will be digital rather than analogue and digital is a much more efficient technology

which will allow the operators to squeeze far more subscribers, perhaps twice as many, into the available frequencies.

The operators will also be given another 200 channels apiece by the Government, which will enormously increase capacity. In the longer term the customer will benefit

because unification is bound to lead to downward pressure on costs.

Equipment manufacturers — those making the base station equipment as well as handsets — will be able to aim for much bigger production runs and so get much greater economies of scale.

The pressure to get the European system operational is intense. The ministers responsible for telecommunications in Britain, France, Germany and Italy signed a memorandum of agreement to go for a harmonized European system last May and experimental digital systems are expected to be operating in the main European capitals, including London, this summer.

Working parties of officials and technical experts are co-operating to try and get the digital system ready for the 1991 target.

After that, says John Carrington, the next big push should be for a unified world system. Ironically, while it will soon be possible to dial from almost anywhere in Europe using the same cellphone, there are still relatively large geographical areas in the UK which are not keyed into the

system and probably never will be.

When the service started the two operators undertook, as a condition of their licenses, to cover 90 per cent of the population by the end of 1989; which was reached last year.

Chris Gent believes Vodafone will get to more than 95 per cent population coverage by 1990.

Cellnet will probably follow suit. But for the final few per cent of population, the companies will have to make up their minds whether the cost is disproportionately high and, if it is, whether that money might not be better spent improving the quality of the system in the most heavily used areas.

In those areas where the system is operating the cost to the customer looks likely to go on dropping, particularly as digital systems are introduced.

Though there has not been much movement in subscription rates or tariffs, the cost of handsets and other types of equipment has plummeted. When the system started a car-based cellphone cost around £1,800 and a portable cellphone £2,500. Three years later a car-based phone costs £600-750 and a hand-portable just over £1,000.

Always someone out there

Telephone answering machines are widely known — although a number of people still resist using them. The person on the move has greater need for an answering service than the average person who spends all his time in the office.

In many cases, voice-mail, where the messages are stored digitally within a computer rather than on an audio-cassette tape, is taking over from ordinary telephone answering machines.

As well as being used by companies to avoid the "telephone tag", where it seems impossible to speak to a person because he or she never seems never to be at their desk, it is increasingly being used in conjunction with mobile communications.

With such systems, a caller dials the appropriate number at the voice-mail system, then receives prompts on how to leave a spoken message. A company representative just phones the "mailbox" from either a fixed or mobile phone and, having input his user identification code, can immediately play the message back. Equally the sales manager is able to send individual messages.

Alternatively, voice-mail can be used in conjunction with paging. Then, as soon as a message is placed in a mailbox, the user is alerted via his pager. This can be extended to work with cellular radio. When the cellphone user is either away from his phone or, say, at a meeting he can divert his calls to another number.

This can be his voice-mail box instead of his home or office.

Adrian J. Morant
European Editor of
Telephone Engineer
and Management

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FOCUS



A Newcastle woman phones from a coach en route to London, an engineer uses a remote-data communications terminal on an M40 bridge and storing and sending computerized information on the road

Medium for a message

When we refer to mobile communications we generally mean voice. However, text and data are starting to assume greater importance — both in terms of transmission to or from a person operating away from his normal base and in terms of the ability to use modern computer systems on the move.

This information could equally well be travelling in either direction. For example, Owner-Drivers Radio Taxi Service, commonly known as Dial-a-Cab, has signed a contract with MDI Mobile Data International for a computerized taxi-dispatch system for more than 1,400 London black cabs.

The system, claimed to be the most advanced in the world, communicates with the drivers over a radio channel via a compact terminal. This unit, mounted in the cab, displays destination and other information for the driver on its screen.

Excell, well known for its pocket-phone has produced its datapack which incorporates in a bag a portable computer, a small printer and equipment such as a modem to convert the data into transmission form.

The company has already sold it to newspapers so that reporters can file on-the-spot stories without even having to look for a working telephone.

It is aimed at being easy to use so that the user does not have to get immersed

in computer or telecommunications jargon. Trend Telecommunications, best-known for its Puma telex machine, has launched E-Note, which it claims is the world's first portable fully integrated remote data communications and messaging terminal.

Incorporating a printer as well as screen, keyboard and communications modem, it can be used attached to a vehicle radio in an unattended mode. One of its many applications could be for mobile windscreens fitters who, while working on one job, would be able to receive details about the next car to be attended.

However, there are a growing number of executives whose work revolves around the use of personal computers. They need to be able to continue their work at home or in a hotel room as well as on the move in, say, a train.

They find the increasing performance of the well-established laptop computers, such as the Toshiba T1200 with its hard disc, a boon. However, with a starting price of £399 (ex VAT) the new Amstrad PPC range of portable computers is set to open new markets. They provide a much more affordable XT software compatible machine that can be carried to and from the office and away on business trips.

The built-in serial port provides the user with versatile communications facilities. The top of the range PPC640 even has a built-in modem that enables it to

communicate with other systems around the world.

Furthermore, low-cost software and productivity tools are simplifying the use of these machines. The program File Shuttle, from Skye Industries of Leicester, comes supplied with a special adapter which allows files to be transferred both rapidly and very easily between machines.

This makes it easier to take work files from the top of the range IBM or Compaq office machine and put on the 3.5in. discs most commonly used on the laptop computers so that a job can be completed away from the office.

And low-cost packages such as Wordstar Express enable the (almost) computer-illiterate to do memos and reports on such machines. When they lose their technophobia, there are integrated programs which incorporate additional functions so that spread sheets can be prepared and a data base compiled.

One particularly interesting package is Portex. As well as being an integrated package which also incorporates a diary, it is able to print documents out onto Filofax size pages. So diary and data base of phone numbers and contacts can be kept up to date at all times, ensuring that the businessman on the move will be able to be more self-sufficient.

Adrian J. Morant

Roaming with a radio

At no time have the choices been wider in mobile communications, writes Adrian J. Morant. With radio pagers starting at around 25p a day — less than £10 per month — the entry price is very low.

Though these just provide one-way messaging, at the other end of the scale cellular radio provides access to the worldwide telephone network even when on the move.

However, the cost of using cellular is upwards of £600 a year — very much upwards — if used a lot. Between these two extremes, there are a number of alternatives offering different facilities and so meeting different needs.

Thus the user is able to select the service (and supplier) best meeting his requirements. Furthermore, while today the UK is an island, the projected pan-European digital cellular radio system will allow the subscriber to "roam" around Europe with the same cell-phone.

As information technology assumes greater importance in business, those who use text and data communications are increasingly wanting to have access to the same facilities while on the move — or at least away from their offices.

There are also emergent applications that could not have been foreseen even just a few years ago. Text messages being sent to and from vehicles, facsimile and telex are now possible and, while of minority interest at present, will grow in importance as costs fall and their value is more widely recognized.

Equally important is the climate for competition. Increasing competition between companies offering similar services keeps prices in check and spawns the development of new and innovative services. Consequently, while the user can benefit, it is a tough marketplace and the weaker must go to the wall.

In these circumstances what appears to be the most marvellous bargain could turn out to be an unmitigated disaster.

A youthful industry grows to maturity

In the three years since cellular radio was launched, the number of users has grown to around a quarter-million and even within this short time, it has passed through a number of traumas and is becoming a mature industry with a professional outlook.

Some of the vicissitudes included shortage of cellphones, problems in coverage with "holes" in the service areas, and the network being overloaded in the London area. The latter has been resolved by the allocation of further radio channels (Erlang — extended total area communications system) and Cellnet applying its sectorization technology while the others were essentially growing pains.

Vodafone claims to be leading its competitor, Cellnet, in terms of numbers. This emphasis on numbers is important because of the tariff structure. In addition to an initial once-only connection charge, there is a £25-a-month service fee and then the call charges themselves.

Consequently, even if a subscriber does not make a single call, there is a large source of revenue for the network. And users do make extensive use of their phones.

A Gallup Poll carried out for Cellnet among its users showed respondents were a fifth more efficient than before in their business with a cell-phone. The figure increased to a third among those who made 11 or more calls a day. Chairmen and proprietors exceeded this average, estimating their increased efficiency at more than 27 per cent.

Originally it was the entrepreneur and small businessman who took advantage of cellular radio to ensure ready accessibility; ie, "how to be in when you are out" as a Vodafone advertisement puts it. Now big business is increasingly equipping staff with cellular phones.

British Telecom Mobile Communications, probably the largest service provider with an installed base of more than 40,000 cellphones, underlines the point. It says

that ICT, with more than 300 cellphones so far, is already well under way towards being the largest mobile phone user in Europe.

The benefits to a haulage company are immediately apparent. The driver can contact both his company and the customer without delay and without leaving his vehicle unattended.

In fact, hazardous cargo-haulage contracts may require that vehicles are fitted with cellular phones. As well as this, with "jobbing" work, it may well be possible to obtain jobs at very short notice and so minimize trucks travelling about unloaded and not earning.

However, with big business increasingly making use of cellular, there is the growing importance of integrating the cellphones into the normal communications of a company.

The Vodanet service provides a direct connection between the Vodafone network and the customer's PABX, or private branch network. It offers increased flexibility by turning Vodafone into mobile extension.

At the same time, the cost of calls in both directions between Vodafone and the customer's telephone system is significantly reduced.

Direct connections terminating the electronic mo-

bile exchanges have been in service for some while but recent changes in the configuration of the Vodafone network now allow the connection to be made to the nearest Vodafone base station, thus reducing the length, and the cost, of the dedicated telephone link.

Since calls through Vodanet are not switched at any point by either of the public telephone networks, the cost to Vodafone of delivering these calls is lowered. These savings are passed on to the customer in the Vodanet tariff.

In addition, through Vodanet, individual office extensions can be dialled directly from a Vodafone. This will reduce switchboard congestion. Similarly, Vodafone can be dialled directly by prefixing the mobile number with a short access code.

It also offers call-transfer and diversion facilities so the caller does not have to ring off and re-dial.

The overall effect will be ease of operation that allows all users to concentrate on their jobs with minimum technological distractions.

But cellular is not just a phone in a car — or on the person. It offers a range of facilities such as call diversion and the ability to handle a growing range of non-voice services. **AJM**

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Many of the same advanced features are also available on Motorola's 8000S Portable Cell-phone, small enough to fit in the corner of a briefcase, yet which can still be used in any type of vehicle.

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Ahoy there! the Vodafone goes afloat

A shake-up for £500

If anyone wanted to cause chaos in the cellular radio industry there would be a simple way to do it: spring a lightweight hand-portable cellphone on the market at under £500.

The two operators, Cellnet and Vodafone, see the cheap hand-portable as the way into the domestic market. They both want to tap that potentially rich seam, but not yet — not until the Government has released more frequencies to accommodate the greatly increased traffic that would result.

If a mass-produced cheap portable triggered a big demand from householders before the companies were ready, Cellnet and Vodafone would be deeply embarrassed. They would simply not have enough capacity to cope without a deterioration in quality.

Between them they had logged up 260,000 subscribers by the end of December, far more than anyone had anticipated when the system began in 1985. Precisely how that number is split between the companies is uncertain. Vodafone claims 140,000. Cellnet is thought to have about 120,000 but will not publish official figures.

Peter Waller, Cellnet's sales director, says this is partly because Vodafone insists on counting on a different system to Cellnet, which means the two are not strictly comparable, and partly because Cellnet is overtaking Vodafone very fast.

When it was announced that there would be only two operators in the business some critics feared the competition would be a sham, that it would

just be a cosy little cartel. Proof that the competition was very real indeed came quite early on.

In April 1986 Cellnet made a hefty increase in prices. It wanted more money to invest in additional base stations and equipment and calculated not only that the market would bear it but that Vodafone was probably doing the same sums and coming to the same conclusion.

Peter Waller admits that was a misjudgement. Vodafone did increase its prices, but only marginally, and Cellnet was forced to reduce its tariffs again to keep in the race.

They are both still pouring many millions of pounds a year into new capacity. If they do not, says Chris Gent, the managing director of Vodafone, which by the end of 1989 will have spent £200 million on infrastructure alone, the whole delicate balancing act of matching customers to capacity could go haywire.

At present, for example, Vodafone has 6,000 voice channels in service. It works to a ratio of 20 to 25 customers per voice channel: that means it can cope with around 150,000 subscribers on the assumption that at any one time only 4 per cent will be making calls.

But as soon as the number of subscribers goes up — and Vodafone is talking of at least 80,000 new customers a year — the quality of the service is threatened, unless new channels are put on.

"You have to keep investing to keep these two things in parallel," he says.

Vodafone learned that lesson early on,

from its rival. On the face of it Cellnet ought to have had a headstart in the cellphone business. It is a consortium of British Telecom (the main shareholder) and Securicor.

While Vodafone had to tender for its license in competition with others, BT had known from the start that it would be one of the two licensees. So Cellnet, through BT, had several big advantages.

It had more time to plan than Vodafone. It had more sites around the country which could easily be adapted to become base stations for the cellular system.

But, with all these advantages, Cellnet still made a crucial mistake. It took too conservative a view of the market. Vodafone, which had been more buoyant and predicted 15-20,000 customers for its system in the first year. In the event it got 19,000.

Cellnet invested on the basis of much more modest assumptions and found itself with an embarrassing 25,000 subscribers. The system ran out of capacity, the quality of service suffered, and customers began to migrate to the rival service.

In the early months Cellnet had 60 per cent of the market to Vodafone's 40. But within nine months the capacity problems had hit Cellnet hard. "In cellular, capacity is quality," says Peter Waller. "As soon as you hit capacity you get bad quality. We suffered for that for about nine months, during which time Vodafone overtook us."

Malcolm Brown

Spanning
Europe

Ten years from now, it is predicted that there will be 10 million subscribers using the pan-European digital cellular radio system. In the UK, the existing cellular radio service providers, Cellnet and Vodafone, have been granted licences to operate the system. This will ensure continuity of operation and also indicate what pricing structure can be expected, writes Adrian J. Morant.

To attract users and so become successful, a system must have a large enough starting service area and then roll out to provide national coverage. However, the enormous cost can only be supported by a rapid growth in the number of subscribers.

Thus, the pricing must be carefully set against that of existing services: too high and it will not attract the necessary users; too low, and it will suck users away from the existing analogue system and so send it into an early decline. Colin Davis, Cellnet's managing director, has gone on record to say that for some years the existing analogue system will co-exist in the UK with the pan-European system, before eventually being phased out.

The advantage of adopting a pan-European standard is that

the same equipment can be used throughout the whole of Europe and manufacturers, preferably the European ones, would benefit from the resultant mass market.

In addition, if the GSM system is taken up outside Europe this number could well reach a further five million, in addition to those in Europe. However, as far as the user is concerned, one of the benefits of the proposed Special Mobile Group (GSM) standardization — together with agreements between the operators in the various countries — would be international roaming.

This would mean that, for example, a British businessman would be able to use his same cellular phone, both to make and to receive calls, anywhere in the service area. In time, this will cover virtually the whole of Europe.

Before this can become a reality it will be necessary for agreements to be reached on a uniform numbering plan and on billing. For example, agreement must be reached between the carriers to cover situations such as when a user, away from his "home" country, initiates a call.

Appropriate formulae must be agreed that will cover the way in which call charges are apportioned between his home carrier (that is responsible for his billing) and the carrier(s) that have actually been handling traffic.

AJM

Dial cordless
for a revolution

The new-generation
cordless phones
could herald a new
era in personal com-
munications, says
Adrian J. Morant

The new-generation instruments involve the bringing together of a number of advanced digital technologies which, because of the high sales volume expected, will be priced as affordable consumer products.

While cellular telephones enable a phone call to be made to an actual person rather than a physical location, their costs — both initial and running — put them beyond the reach of many who could use them to advantage. Second-generation cordless telephones, CT-2s, are based on a fresh look at needs in the context of developing a consumer product rather than a specialist professional tool.

Consumers want the same performance (if not better) than that obtained from a conventional phone — plus portability. Early cordless telephones suffered from some big shortcomings.

As the numbers of CTs grew, so did problems of mutual interference and the risk of calls being overheard by neighbouring CT-users. And because the devices were primitive and lacked a security system, owners increasingly found that, unknowingly, they were hosts of (and so had to bear the call charges of) handsets being operated near their premises.

The new UK-CT2 definition was formulated. It takes user requirements into account, including the need for good speech quality, prevention of illicit access and im-

proved privacy.

The user should not need to select a channel but should be able to use the phone with no more difficulty than when using a normal instrument.

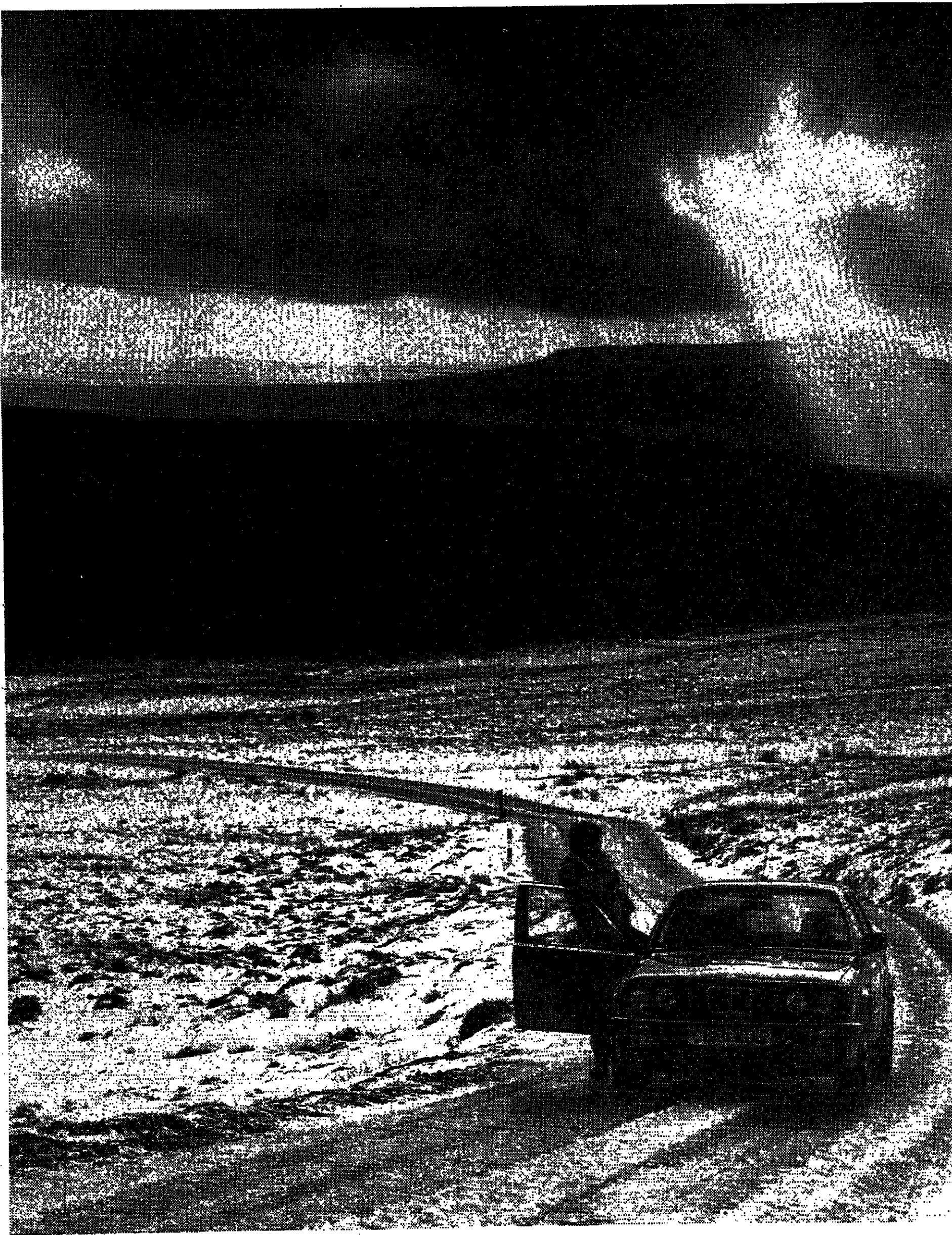
To promote competition in the UK's liberalized market and thus growth of sales, the service was to be defined so as to allow product differentiation. For example, widely affordable high-volume products are envisaged for the residential market with higher priced higher featured products for the business user.

This implies a permissive specification, rather than a restrictive one which, in turn, allows scope for imaginative future applications of the same service.

British Telecom and STC Telecommunications joined forces last July when BT placed an initial £6 million development contract with STC, to draw on the results of advanced research carried out by both companies in telephony and the VLSI techniques required for CT-2. In August, a Finnish conglomerate, Nokia, invested £2.5 million in a 25 per cent stake in Shaye Communications.

Libra Developments was the first company to have made an actual product announcement. However, before the end of 1988, several products will be launched on the British market, all designed within the CT-2 specification to co-exist without interfering one system to the other.

There is, however, a joker running wild. Supertron, a small British technology company run by a professional inventor, Michael Rodrigues, claims to have devised a technique which will revolutionize cellular phones and so may hold their prices down and so make it more difficult for CT2 to succeed.



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phone

01-481 4481

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HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION

"Build the platform for growth"
Financial Services: W1 up to £20k

Our client is a very successful financial services consultancy, poised for rapid expansion within its specialised professional market.

A Head of Administration is required to take full control of the office team, which is growing fast, to improve efficiency and extend the use of technology.

This is a vital new position providing an outstanding career opportunity for an experienced office manager who can work closely with professional staff to build the administrative platform for successful growth.

Probably aged 30+, and with a secretarial or similar background, you will require energy and enthusiasm coupled with good organisational and leadership skills. Experience of managing a modern office and familiarity with the latest information technology will be essential.

Salary up to £20k plus free Health Care, STI and Pension/Life Assurance together with the scope to make a significant personal contribution to success.

Please send full career details to: Alan Forrest, Strategic People Recruitment, The Range, Dockett Eddy Lane, Stepperton, Middlesex TW17 9NT. Tel: 0932 563213/567257. (Evenings/weekends on 0628 749877). Interviews will be held in London.

STRATEGIC PEOPLE RECRUITMENT



EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Our Client, a dynamic and high profile consultancy, is seeking a highly motivated and experienced professional to join its team. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of senior management personnel. The role involves a high level of responsibility and will require a proven track record in executive search. The successful candidate will be based in London and will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of senior management personnel. The role involves a high level of responsibility and will require a proven track record in executive search.

CAREER MOVE SECRETARY NO SHORTHAND £13,000

A superb opening within a firm of Management Consultants for a Secretary to assume more responsibility working at Partner level. You must be a "people person" with a proven track record in a similar role. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of senior management personnel. The role involves a high level of responsibility and will require a proven track record in executive search.

LITERARY DESIGNS PUBLISHING - £8,500

Our client one of the World's leading publishers, has a vacancy for an experienced editorial assistant with an active interest in the book publishing industry. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of senior management personnel. The role involves a high level of responsibility and will require a proven track record in executive search.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT CELIA AHLQUIST/PENELLA PRICE/FIONA CUSICK ON 01-588 6674

ZARAK HAY ASSOCIATES (REC. CONS.)

6 BROAD STREET PLACE, BLOMFIELD STREET, LONDON EC2 7JH

CLASSIC FASHIONS

£12,500

Our client, international retailers of beautiful and exclusive designer clothes, seeks an experienced and professional PA. Working at Board level your involvement will span personnel and acquisitions and offer infinite variety. Excellent benefits include 23 days hols, generous discounts and a bonus. 90/50/wp skills needed.

OSBORNE RICHARDSON
Senior Financial & Joint Professional
101 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1
KING LINDEN COURT HANTS

01-409 2393

IN ABSENTIA

£15,000 + PACKAGE

It would be difficult to find a more respected company for a senior PA to join. In the top management team of this major PLC you will be supporting a busy and widely travelled director at the heart of mergers, acquisitions and corporate policy. Liaison will be at top level with the Board, head office, banking and City contacts. Secretarial skills are used minimally but have to be of a high standard. If you would like to discuss this further in confidence, please ring 01-831 1220.

Age 28-45 Skills: 100/60

01-831 1220

RECRUITMENT COMPANY

61-63 GARRICK STREET WC2E 9AR

SERVICES - WEST END

£12,000

You will be working directly with the Vice-President of this very successful multi-million pound company. You will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of senior management personnel. The role involves a high level of responsibility and will require a proven track record in executive search.

FABRIC HOUSE - CHELSEA £10,000

A friendly, cheerful person with a good sense of humour is required to organise and manage the office of this expanding successful fashion fabric house. You must have a proven track record in a similar role. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of senior management personnel. The role involves a high level of responsibility and will require a proven track record in executive search.

EXECUTIVE CONSULTANCY - ST JAMES'S £11,500

As an expanding opportunity exists for an intelligent, well-presented, and confident individual who wishes to move to a new, exciting, and challenging position. You must have a proven track record in a similar role. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of senior management personnel. The role involves a high level of responsibility and will require a proven track record in executive search.

Bernadette of Bond St.

101 New Bond Street, London W1

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EXECUTIVE CONSULTANCY - ST JAMES'S

£11,500

As an expanding opportunity exists for an intelligent, well-presented, and confident individual who wishes to move to a new, exciting, and challenging position. You must have a proven track record in a similar role. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of senior management personnel. The role involves a high level of responsibility and will require a proven track record in executive search.

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01-40

CLOSE YOUR EYES..

...and think about the job you'd love. Smart office, busy atmosphere, friendly people. If you think it's only a dream, then talk to Amanda. She's a very fussy lady. She's only interested in smart, go-ahead companies in advertising, media and fashion. And she's interested in you, if you're a talented and enthusiastic secretary. So open your eyes, and dial 379 7007, now.

Amanda

Barrington. She's fussy, because you are. Call her today - 01-379 7007
Recruitment Consultants

PERSONAL SECRETARY CENTRAL LONDON C £10,000 PA

British Telecom, Trunk Networks requires two Personal Secretaries to assist their senior managers.

Located in Euston Road, duties will include word processing, audio typing, filing and general secretarial duties. Previous WP and secretarial experience are essential, and shorthand would be an advantage.

In return, staff benefits include flexible working hours, pension scheme, staff restaurant, interest free season ticket loan and 21 days annual leave.

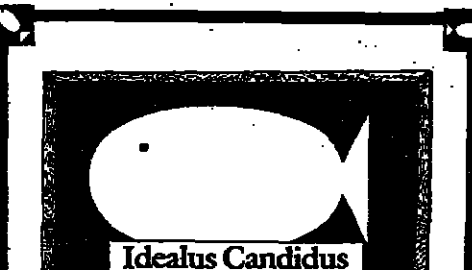
For further information or to apply please phone Carol on 01 388 4767 or Helen on 01 388 8297. Closing date for applications is 01 March 1988.

BRITISH TELECOM IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

PERSONNEL BACKGROUND? FUTURE SUCCESS!

You have a minimum of 2 years experience of recruiting staff as a personnel officer or manager, plus a positive attitude and an enthusiastic personality. As a consultant with us you will manage your own desk but have the support of your colleagues. Your energy and expertise determine your job satisfaction, career progression and salary package of £16,000 - £30,000 +.

Call Lyn Cecil on 439 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS

Very rare species of secretary. Only one exists for every vacancy. Ask the professional Fisher.

JUDY FISHER ASSOCIATES
01-493 0238
Recruitment Consultants

CAMDEN TOWN DESIGN COMPANY

Urgently require a really self-motivated secretary for two Directors. The work is varied and includes typing, administrative duties and general support. WP & shorthand preferred but not essential. Salary negotiable.

Ring Trisha Herbert on: 01 482 3080

Maine-Tucker**SURROUND YOURSELF IN CREATIVE SPLENDOR? £9,500 + PERKS**

Imagine yourself helping in the Company Car to run a vital errand... With your natural spirit and enthusiasm you will be mucking in with the whole team... From greeting famous clients, to liaising with suppliers, to having your own responsibilities... If you have accurate shorthand and typing (80/50) and are in your team's, this is a fantastic opportunity to join London's most exciting and notorious interiors company!

50 Pall Mall St James's London SW1Y 5LB Telephone: 01-925 0548

PROPERTY PANACHE

As PA/Sec in this rapidly expanding property development co., based in the heart of the West End, you will be handling negotiations at the highest level, concerning commercial rentals and freehold properties. Loss of involvement and a friendly, lively atmosphere. 50/50 WP + WP (typing will be given) are needed in addition to a bright personality and a keen sense of humour.

Ring Sarah Green on: 01 226 6427

K NIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES**£15,000 + BANK BENEFITS**

Our City banking client is recruiting a PA for their two Managing Directors. Unusual opportunity for candidate aged 24-30 with SH/typing skills, impeccable presentation and ideal banking experience. Very much a PA post with great deal of contact worldwide including organising on an international level.

Phone: 01 430 1581/2533
Dolce Simpson Appointments Ltd.

PA/SEC - £15,000

Your professionalism and intelligent approach to your work will be much appreciated by this equity partner of a large firm of architects. His field of activity is administration and personnel so confidentiality is vital as you will have access to very private information. Commitment, impeccable skills and a friendly open personality will help you secure this position in a prestigious company. Age preferred 30-35.

KING & TOBEN
01 629 9648
48 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3PE

PR

Small Knightsbridge Consultancy requires PA/Sec. Good typing/SH essential. Plenty of variety and client/media involvement. Salary £11,000 + bonus.

Tel: 245-9660

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Tel: 245-9660

MANPOWER

The place for TOP Office temps

By temping with Manpower, shorthand secretaries benefit from a variety of employment, top rates of pay, and a great range of bonuses. That's why...

Top secretaries temp with Manpower

Call 01-486 7865

Judy Farquharson Limited

47 New Bond Street, London W1Y 5HA. 01-493 8824

SCOPE + TYPING = CAREER

Typing (45+) opens many doors here are just some of them for college leavers and second jobs without shorthand.

Public Relations project assistant with small PR company. Good secretarial skills, organisational and research and liaison skills. Team member in cheerful type.

Design enthusiastic assistant for busy office representing UK designers. W1.

Publishing graduate typist, new job highly involved in research, exhibitions, magazine marketing and sales presentations. Tact and initiative. W1.

* Please note we also have senior secretarial jobs in all areas.

Please ring Melanie Woods on 01-493 8824

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

WINE TRADE ITALIAN SPEAKING SECRETARY PA OPEN

The dynamic Managing Director of a London wine importer's seeks to replace his Personal Assistant who leaves to start a family.

To fill her shoes you will need very fluent Italian, a dynamic and outgoing personality, good communication skills and diplomacy plus a cool head to solve diverse problems in a fast-moving international environment. Day release will be given to attend courses at the Wine & Spirits Educational Trust. This exciting opportunity will suit an experienced secretary with good skills seeking an exciting and responsible role.

Ring (01) 839 3365

CLC Language Services & Co (rec cons) 6 Buckingham St London WC2N 6BSU

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

Recruitment Consultants

ITALIAN PA/Secretary to Managing Director. A rewarding, varied and busy job in the wine and spirits industry for someone experienced and responsible, with fast English shorthand and excellent spoken and written Italian, which will be used a lot. French useful. Negotiable salary.

GERMAN or ITALIAN Experienced PA/Secretary to Director. Fluent language needed to help energetic young team expand business on the Continent. You will need English shorthand and will work on presentations, using computer graphics programmes. Around £12,000.

01 836 3794

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

adventure

AD AGENCY START UP

With an agency parent company backing and large, prestigious acc. the newly expanded M.D. seeks right hand PA/Sec with exp. SH. Previous advertising post would be a plus. Flexible salary. £15,000-18,000 p.a.

PA TO ADVERTISING AGENCY CHAIRMAN

As an extremely professional, successful person, it is essential that the Chairman has the back-up and support of a highly motivated, stylish, efficient PA. Exp. ad copy + ad background exp. Age 25-35. £12,500 p.a.

For these and many other jobs in the world of communications please call Alex, Jane or Graham at the Agency.

ADVENTURE PERSONNEL LIMITED 12 South Molton Street, London W1P 1DF Tel: 01-499 8992 or 01-629 5747

SECRETARY/PA - W1

Small, friendly international Law Office seeks university graduate PA. Applicants will have fast accurate typing and word processing skills, a good telephone manner, be numerate, well-organised and self-motivated and willing to get involved in all aspects of running the firm. Legal experience not required. Age 25 to 35 (non-smokers preferred). Salary £10,000-£12,000 negotiable (P.P.P. Cover).

Telephone 935 5372

(No agencies)

La Crème

SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Is There Life After a Time-sheet?

Career development doesn't have to stop just because you are temping. My aim is to give you assignments that will complement your skills and broaden your experience. Come and join a great team. Call me, Amanda, as soon as you can.

01-491 1868

Fun/Financial

They do mix! Are you keen on the financial market - total involvement and variety? A brilliant opportunity to use your own initiative and accurate secretarial skills and WP/PC knowledge to enjoy your new City position offering £12,000.

Contact Nicola Reed: 01 937 6525

01-491 1868

KENTACOM

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ADMIN ASST PERSONNEL

£14,000

To assist the Personnel Dept. of large West End Solicitors.

22+ years good secretarial experience with computer knowledge. The West End. First class benefits.

Call Carol Williams, Acme Appointments, 315 Oxford St. W1. 01-491 1868

DIRECTORS SECRETARY

For London Charity. Duties will need good shorthand and organising experience. Involvement of special events. Salary negotiable.

Tel Mr Brill 01 723 1677

WE ARE TEMPORARILY EMBARRASSED

at not being able to satisfy the demand of our many clients for temporary support staff.

If you have excellent skills, word processing expertise on Wang, Olivetti ETV250, Wordstar and/or Displaywrite III/IV, we have interesting assignments in advertising and allied fields. Help us to help you, please contact us immediately.

JOAN TREE
IN COVENT GARDEN
39 FLORAL STREET WC2
01-379 3515
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Administration Manager

ca. £12,000 plus bonus

One of Europe's leading computer companies, we are looking for a mature, person to run our West End branch office. The suitable candidate must be professional and self-motivated, capable of dealing with the day-to-day problems of a busy office. Typing and/or word processing skills are essential, as is experience of general office routines.

This interesting and independent position carries a remuneration package consisting of basic salary, bonuses, life assurance, private medical insurance and pension scheme. Please call or write with C.V. to: Mrs. Diana Pletscher, Mannesmann Kleinze, 224, Bath Road, Slough, Berks. SL1 4DS. Tel: (0753) 33355.

PR AT THE TOP £12,000

No PR experience necessary to join this well established consultancy as a PA/Secretary. You will enjoy contact with major clients, organise presentations and manage and recruit junior secretaries. Very varied and informal atmosphere. Rusty shorthand, 35 wpm audio and WP experience needed.

Please telephone 01-248 3511

Early/late appointments arranged

Elizabeth Hunt

Recruitment Consultants

2-3 Bedford Street London WC2

PARTNERSHIP SECRETARY

£12,500

An elegant West End office suite with people to

manage it. If you're a dark-suited person who enjoys a busy, multi-

task environment, this could be the job for you. 3 partners (one is young) and clever backup.

Please call HELEN WOODS 01-429 8777

Office Angels

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

LEGAL SECRETARY

Busy Solicitor requires capable secretary for varied and interesting general practice. Baker Street area. Audio and WP skills required. Congenial surroundings. Salary £11,000 aae. Absolutely no agencies.

Contact Irving Stone on 01 935 9966

From Tuesday morning 16th February onwards

HELP!

Assistant needed to a PA for immediate employment. Young, well groomed with good typing skills. Salary negotiable.

Please call Erika on 01 491 0802

Bilinguasec

ART DECO TO £11,000

This International Design Consultancy based in Covent Garden is seeking a bright, bubbly secretary with fluent French. A flexible approach and a willingness to make in an important role as a small team. You will also need strong organisational skills.

01-493 6446

46 Maddox Street, London W1R 9PB.

Recruitment Consultants

PUBLIC RELATIONS COVENT GARDEN

A rare opening for young secretary interested in PR. To undertake a variety of administrative and secretarial duties for the Editor and his lively team. Constant telephone liaison with journalists/reporters. £8,000 plus excellent company benefits.

Ring Georgia James

01 242 3344

HATTON GARDEN AGENCY

ALFRED MARKS

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

P.A. SECRETARY

Local company seeking a P.A. Sec. Slight job, organising appointments, keeping diary, client and telephone liaison, all for a lovely boss. Copy/ audio typing + WP. Salary c. £11,000, 4 weeks holiday + annual bonus. Immediate start.

Telephone Mandy or Julia on 01-587 0024

237 Euston Road, London NW1

PLUG INTO THE POWERHOUSE

DOCKLANDS OPPORTUNITY PA/ADMIN

£12,000

Prefer Graduate or 'A' Level Maths. Challenging position setting up new dept. Oxford Street. Excellent benefits.

Call Pamela Ray on 01 405 8911

KINGSLAND PERS CONS

£12,000 - £15,000

Telephone 495 2687 before 6.45 p.m. and we will post, overnight, yours and all reports on all our clients.

SEC/PA vacancies and clerical of low our impartial reporting system reduces the risk of obsolescence and/or redundancy.

Interviews and/or send CV to Personnel Secretaries, 1, Bernadine Street, London W1M 6RN

SECRETARY/PA TO MARKETING DIRECTOR

£11,000 + Bonus + Benefits

PA to the number one holiday exchange company - largest in the world.

We are currently seeking a Secretary to our Marketing Director. This demanding and varied role requires a confident and well organised person with experience as Director/Senior Manager level in a sales or Secretarial work.

Working in an extremely busy environment, you will need to be an enthusiastic, motivated person, who is flexible and enjoys working under pressure. Some travelling abroad will also be required.

Please write enclosing a full CV to: Jacqueline Kelly, Personnel Officer, RCI Europe Ltd, Panell House, 15-25 White Road, London SW1 1LW.

Closing date for application 25th February 1988

ORGANISED AUDIO £12,000 WC1

Supremely efficient Audio sec to run office of busy Architectural Design Consultancy. Late 20's ideal. Call Shale on 408-1431

Middleton Jeffers

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TOP JOB IN PUBLISHING TO £11,500

Assist MD whose dynamic and successful Publishing Co. has all the top Authors and Best Sellers. Ideally 22+ with SH skills, you will enjoy an often hectic day that's always challenging.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU

Ring YOUR NEAREST OFFICE

Fleet Street 353 7696 or Regent Street 439 1240

RECEPTIONIST - VICTORIA

c.£9,000 + Bens

Luxurious office of prestigious company seek well groomed & charming receptionist. Greeting major clients, sending telex & typing correspondence for the manager are all part of your daily programme. If you are 24+ with accurate typing, call us now on 353 4722.

01-353 4722

Suite 21, 107 Fleet Street, London EC4

BEDFORD SCHOOL HEAD MASTER'S SECRETARY

Applications are invited for the post of Secretary/Personal Assistant to the Head Master.

The post calls for tact and discretion, and an ability to get on well with people. Applicants should have proven secretarial skills, and be prepared to be concerned with all aspects of the administration of the school. An interest in people, initiative, flexibility, resilience and a sense of humour would be advantageous.

Applications with C.V., naming two referees, to the Head Master, Bedford School, Burnaby Road, Bedford MK40 2TU. Telephone Bedford 53436.

SUN AND SAND!!

DESIGN - Junior Assistant, accurate typing £7,500

MARKETING - Receptionist with some WP £8,000

PROPERTY - Career Prospects for good sec £8,000

MEDICAL - Junior Sec interested in own committee dealings £8,700

HOTELS - Manageress PA with good admin 90/50

PUBLISHING - MD's PA, varied responsibilities £11,500

Susan Beck

RECRUITMENT 01-584 6242

JAPANESE

Japan Recruitment specializes in the selection of Japanese-speaking personnel at all levels. We have a diverse client base covering the major financial, commercial and industrial sectors.

For further details of our services please contact Kate Ferguson or Surinder Bains, Japan Recruitment, 5 Sherwood Street, London W1. (Tel: 01-734 4421/2)

SOCIALLY AWARE SECRETARY/PA

c.£14,000

Chairman level experience for old established company in SW1. Flexible and willing to work for more than one person and able to handle a variety of tasks. A tremendous amount of exciting social activities of the highest level. Must have excellent presentation and impeccable presentation skills. 100/60 wpm essential. Age 25-40.

Telephone Mrs Byzantine: 01 222 5061

NON-SMOKERS PERSONNEL SERVICES

PA/SEC BANKING

c.£15,000 W1

U.S. Bank based in W1 looking for top PA Sec for City Corporate Finance. Excellent salary (£12,070 min) necessary together with audio and IBM WP. Previous experience in banking/finance field a must as is a non-smoker.

Call Marlene Freer on: 01 629 9157

SUSAN HAMILTON PERSONNEL SERVICES

Mayfair RECEPTIONIST

£11,000

A very busy position for a calm, well presented/spoken, experienced receptionist for prestigious Mayfair Estate Agents.

Please call Angie or Penny on 01-493 5122.

VENTURE PLUS PERSONNEL (REC CONS)

Satellite TV

MD needs a PA/Office Administrator who can take control of everything taking place within this fast expanding TV co. Areas of responsibility include:

personnel, advertising and marketing. Ideal opportunity if you feel ready for more responsibility.

£14,000

Publishing Supreme

Chief Executive of major publishing group needs a top notch, thoroughly professional PA/Secretary to cope with life at the top of the magazine publishing world. It's a demanding role calling for total dedication. c£12,500

Production Secretary

Busy team of producers need lots of assistance from a bright hardworking secretary who can keep up with a hectic pace and ensure everything runs smoothly when they are out of the office. Modes of responsibilities, c£12,000

TENNIS

Cash brought back to earth as Curren takes his revenge

From Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent, Christchurch

SCOREBOARD FROM CHRISTCHURCH

House of Lords

When Hadlee, having shielded last man Chatfield for more than half an hour, offered an unseemly whirl at Dilley and departed. New

C J McDermott c de Aheis b Amalean . 4
M G Hughes b Amalean . 8
Extras (lb 12, nb 8, w 5) . 23
Total . 455

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-120, 2-133, 3-289,
4-348, 5-346, 6-380, 7-418, 8-434, 9-443.

Amalean to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-36, 2-42, 3-42, 4-
68.

BOWLING: McDermott 4-2-8-0; Hughes
13-5-24-1; Waugh 8-4-14-0; Dodemaide
12-6-27-2.

HE PLAYED A TIGHT MATCH

The promotion must have lost money, but that was expected. The other Cash was more disappointing.

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL
CENTRAL LEAGUE (7.0): First division:
Leicester City, Aston Villa, Sheffield Wednesday

Second division: M

VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Premier division: Croydon v Tooting and Mitcham. Second division north: Harlow v

ER: Cockney classic. IT:

SPORTSWORLD EXTRA: Tennis: Mortgage Corporation National League: Car-

Queen's Bench Division

No duty to provide staff to cut delays

extension of the original period and not good reason for failure to serve it during that period, and that the judge had wrongly confused those two different matters.

While it might be possible to visualize a case in which establishment of the second matter was not a necessary step

That the judge did not take into account the balance of friendship between the parties, although the *Kleinwort Benson*

Housing by year's end

Solicitors: Miss Penelope B. Wood; DHSS Solicitor.

Housing benefit not payable after year's absence from home

The plaintiff conceded that in non-legally aided cases an inability to meet costs was a relevant factor but submitted

It followed that none of the various grounds of appeal put forward succeeded.

Mr Richard Drabble for the applicant; Mr Nicholas

A person could not occupy as his home a dwelling to which he did not intend to return, so the intention of an absent claimant for housing benefit was a relevant factor and it would still be relevant to ascertain what physical ties (for example, furniture,

Solicitors: Sinclair Taylor & Martin, North Kensington; Ms Louise Thomas, Kensington.

RACING: SHERWOOD SET FOR OVERDUE CHANGE OF LUCK ON PROMISING NOVICE CHASER AT NOTTINGHAM THIS AFTERNOON

French star adapts well in school to winning ways Gurteen Wood set for return to winning ways for Tote winner

By George Rae Jamesmead is likely to run in the County Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival next month providing he is none the worse for his hard-fought Tote Gold Trophy success at Newbury on Saturday.

"He was a bit lame this morning," trainer David Elsworth said yesterday, "but if he comes through all right we will think about Cheltenham or perhaps the Imperial Cup at Sandown."

"This was to have been his last race but I'm going to try to persuade the owners to let him carry on a bit longer."

One of the owners, the former England footballer Mick Channon, also bred Jamesmead, and the seven-year-old seems also to have inherited much of Channon's enthusiasm. He ran on strongly under a powerful ride from Brendan Powell to hold off the northern challenger Buck Up by three-quarters of a length with High Knave, prominent throughout, another six lengths away third.

When Jamesmead does retire he will take up stud duties in Northern Ireland.

Beech Road, re-appearing just three days after finishing a well-beaten sixth at Ascot, where whose presence compressed the lower end of the handicap, was never seen with a chance.

"That may well be his last race this season before he goes overseas," Robin Barwell, assistant to Tony Balding, said yesterday. "But it's amazing that the things people read into what you do or don't do with horses."

However, Malcolm Jefferson, the trainer of the well-backed Tancard Sand, who at 6lb out of the handicap was arguably the greatest sufferer from the weights remaining as they were, offered no excuses in defeat.

"I was very disappointed with the way he ran," Jefferson said yesterday. "He just didn't show any of his usual spirit. But now and maybe just needs a rest."

"The fact that the weights didn't go up wasn't the cause of his being beaten. He simply didn't run his race on the day."

Jamesmead, who was himself 11lb out of the handicap proper, clearly did run his race, and the fact that the race was so close, namely that — with

Here's mud in your eye: bespattered Brendan Powell acknowledges the crowd's applause as he returns on the Tote Gold Trophy winner Jamesmead (Photograph: David Hartley)

Cheltenham the story may well have a different ending.

Last year there was only a neck between them when Pearlyman prevailed in what Very Promising's trainer David Nicholson described as "the best race of the meeting."

"The score is 2-1 to us," he continued, "but I've always said there is nothing between the pair of them. I only hope that it is as good a race again this year and that the best horse wins."

Nicholson will also run the much-improved Long Engagement, with Simon Sherwood riding whichever stable jockey Richard Dunwoody rejects.

Pearlyman's trainer John Edwards was not discouraged by the defeat. "His blood has not been quite right until last few days and I may have a bit say on him," he said. "I don't think we saw the best of him today."

Mercy Rimell, delighted with

the running of Gaye Brief, fourth in the Tote Gold Trophy, will run the 11-year-old in the Waterford Crystal Stayers' Hurdle. Mrs Rimell also has the festival on the agenda for Golden Friend, the winner of the Compton Chase.

"He could go for either the Gold Cup or the Ritz Club Cup," she said, "although if the ground stays like this he may miss the meeting and be aimed at the Whitbread Gold Cup. That has always appealed as a race which would suit him."

Mick's Star, widely considered one of the best handicapped entrants for the Grand National, was extended to 25-1 with Mecca after suffering a surprise neck defeat by Cheery's Brig in the Elk Handicap Chase at Ayr.

However, jockey Phil Tuck was undismayed by the reverse. "He ran a good race and I would like to think he is still very much going to Liverpool," he said.

Employing different tactics on Burton Fennell, Solfield made most of the running and had to be at his strongest to hold off the persistent challenge of Rupert Nuttall on Champagne Bar.

Having taken the first division of the ladies' on Gathabawn, Jennifer Liston suffered a falling gall on the favourite Telling Tales in division two.

This was a fate which had a parallel for Pauline Robson at the Haydon. Kimswa repeated his success, but Ashbender, on the bit and level with Able Pilot and Elgeddon, came down two fences from home in division one of the restricted.

Nokuru, once with Monica Dickinson, made his point-to-point debut but a winning one for Simon Whitaker in the second division of the restricted.

But the most impressive winner here was Douglas Brig in the open. Nick Hargreaves had him jumping beautifully and the further he went the more he extended his lead.

A family double for the Ellwells and a superb performance by Mahor Brig were the features of the rain-soaked Oxford University meeting.

Teresa Ellwell had an easy passage on Brockie Law in the ladies' but husband Robert had it all to do in the closing stages on Giltshire Hill. In probably his best riding performance to date, Ellwell secured a second place behind Kingsbourne Lad, pushed his horse out to win by eight lengths.

Although David Naylor-Leyland did not have much to beat in division one of the open on Mahor Brig, he formerly trained by Pat Hogan, he could not have done it more impressively, springing clear from the last to leave Smiling Sam and Disco Trix standing.

Other winners at this meeting were the north-western-based The Mighty Duck, ridden by Stuart Dickson, and Clement Freud's Spokenbender, partnered by top hunter chaser rider Alan Hill.

WELSH NATIONAL, while he was officially rated 11lb behind Forgive-N-Forget, his improvement has clearly been underestimated.

Mark Dwyer could offer no excuse for Forgive-N-Forget's loss, but he was never placed to challenge. His trainer Arthur Moore was fined £750 as the stewards did not accept his explanation for not running his other declaration, Weather The Storm, one of four non-runners from the original declaration of eight.

Tommy Stack will saddle his first Cheltenham runner next month when Kingsmill bids for the Sun Alliance Handicap.

Highclere was a Classic winner in the Royal colours, put up an impressive display of clean, fast jumping in his first attempt over hurdles, winning by six lengths from the favourite Golden Decision in the Le Coq Hardi Maiden Hurdle.

On his latest visit he paid

run, NR: Knockley Castle.

1.30.11, Clam Mountain (9-2), 2. Smart To (9-4), 3. First Bout (9-4), 4. (5-1), 5. Doubtless (9-4), 6. ran.

2.0.1, Very Promising (5-4), 2. Pearlyman (4-5), 3. Knockback (6-6), 4. ran.

2.40.1, Jamesmead (11-1), 2. Buck Up (9-1), 3. High Knave (10-1), 4. Gaye Brief (2-1), 5. Musical Mystery (7-4), 6. ran.

3.10.1, Golden Friend (11-1), 2. Western Sunset (8-4), 3. Against The Grain (5-1), 4. ran.

3.30.1, Golden Redemmer (11-1), 2. Pearlyman (4-5), 3. Wild Argosy (10-1), 4. ran.

3.50.1, Cate Eyles (9-2), 2. Friendly Henry (9-1), 3. Rollymancie (10-1), 4. ran.

4.15.1, Monarch (15-1), 2. Rollymancie (10-1), 3. ran.

4.30.1, James My Boy (11-1), 2. High Ham (10-1), 3. ran.

4.45.1, Stream Bridge (10-1), 2. More Fool You (25-1), 3. Royal Gossip (10-1), 4. ran.

5.00.1, The Buzzer (2-1), 2. Richards Bay (13-5), 3. Centre Attraction (5-2), 4. ran.

5.15.1, Sam Wicks (12-1), 2. Flying Ace (7-2), 3. Brumby Park (5-1), 4. ran.

5.30.1, P. P. Pony (11-1), 2. Beaker (11-2), 3. Farview Hope (4-1), 4. ran.

5.45.1, Chancy's Brig (11-1), 2. 12-1, 3. 12-1, 4. 12-1, 5. 12-1, 6. 12-1, 7. 12-1, 8. 12-1, 9. 12-1, 10. 12-1, 11. 12-1, 12. 12-1, 13. 12-1, 14. 12-1, 15. 12-1, 16. 12-1, 17. 12-1, 18. 12-1, 19. 12-1, 20. 12-1, 21. 12-1, 22. 12-1, 23. 12-1, 24. 12-1, 25. 12-1, 26. 12-1, 27. 12-1, 28. 12-1, 29. 12-1, 30. 12-1, 31. 12-1, 32. 12-1, 33. 12-1, 34. 12-1, 35. 12-1, 36. 12-1, 37. 12-1, 38. 12-1, 39. 12-1, 40. 12-1, 41. 12-1, 42. 12-1, 43. 12-1, 44. 12-1, 45. 12-1, 46. 12-1, 47. 12-1, 48. 12-1, 49. 12-1, 50. 12-1, 51. 12-1, 52. 12-1, 53. 12-1, 54. 12-1, 55. 12-1, 56. 12-1, 57. 12-1, 58. 12-1, 59. 12-1, 60. 12-1, 61. 12-1, 62. 12-1, 63. 12-1, 64. 12-1, 65. 12-1, 66. 12-1, 67. 12-1, 68. 12-1, 69. 12-1, 70. 12-1, 71. 12-1, 72. 12-1, 73. 12-1, 74. 12-1, 75. 12-1, 76. 12-1, 77. 12-1, 78. 12-1, 79. 12-1, 80. 12-1, 81. 12-1, 82. 12-1, 83. 12-1, 84. 12-1, 85. 12-1, 86. 12-1, 87. 12-1, 88. 12-1, 89. 12-1, 90. 12-1, 91. 12-1, 92. 12-1, 93. 12-1, 94. 12-1, 95. 12-1, 96. 12-1, 97. 12-1, 98. 12-1, 99. 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Cricket facing division at ICC

By Richard Streeton

English cricket seems likely to have to surrender cherished principles on selection policy and individual rights if it is to comply with proposed International Cricket Conference (ICC) rules on links with South Africa. The new ICC policy, which emerged this weekend, leaves little room for compromise.

Should England reject the revised thinking, their Test programme could be severely restricted and the game divided into "black" and "white" factions, with the West Indies, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka ranged on the one hand, and England, Australia and New Zealand on the other. The crisis point comes at the ICC meeting next July.

The main resolution to be tabled allows the host country to insist on the replacement of any touring team members who have coached or played in South Africa. This encroaches upon the right of a country to select anyone they wish, and is a principle often reaffirmed by the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB).

A second alternative resolution, only marginally less significant, says the visitors "may" be asked to replace

England build a lead of 206 runs in the Test match, page 33

unwelcome players. If they decline, the option might be to cancel the tour, and any country doing this would no longer put their ICC status in jeopardy. With all countries heavily dependent on Test and tour revenues, any cutbacks to the international programme would be devastating.

Either resolution would win approval at the ICC because the "black" Test-playing nations have a majority. Both were framed in Calcutta last November by a committee set up after the ICC postponed action on a West Indian move to ban any cricketer with South African connections.

England would be affected more than any other Test country because 70 or so county cricketers spend each winter in South Africa coaching and playing. The Cricketers' Association, the players' union, has always been adamant that members should have the right to earn their living where they wish and it quotes the restraint-of-trade laws.

Asia Cup is called off

Dhaka - The third Asia Cup tournament, scheduled to begin here on February 22, has been called off, the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) announced yesterday (Ahmed Fazl writes).

The decision was taken after India said they were not sending their team because of continuing political disturbances in Bangladesh. A spokesman for the BCCB said that the Asian Cricket Conference had been asked to reschedule the tournament in October or early November this year.

Middlesbrough's defiant spirit proves decisive

By Ian Ross

Middlesbrough 2
Aston Villa 1

The spirit of defiance that rescued Middlesbrough from extinction just 18 months ago returned just in time to breathe new life into the club's promotional aspirations yesterday.

Aston Villa, a first division club in everything other than status, were coasting towards a twelfth away League win of the season at subdued Ayresome Park when the tables were not so much turned as overturned.

Within the space of three minutes, the home side, legs made weary by recent FA Cup exploits on Teesside and Merseyside, delved into depleted reserves of stamina to unearth an equalizer and then a winner.

Despair and disbelief were etched on the faces of the Villa players as they trudged to the dressing-room pondering their first League defeat away from the Midlands since they succumbed to Hull City in August last year.

Much of the credit for Middlesbrough's win must go to the manager, Bruce Rioch, who judged to perfection the introduction of his two substitutes.

As his side began to tire, the

product of a 42-minute pursuit of an equalizer, Rioch sent on Kernaghan and Burke within the space of 60 seconds around the 78th minute.

His decision, and indeed his presence, was rewarded almost immediately as Villa were overhauled with two expertly taken goals.

With nine minutes remaining, and the less faithful of the home crowd already beginning to make their way towards the exits, Kernaghan released Slaven down the centre and although his shot was under-hit, Spink, the Villa goalkeeper, could only effect a partial save and the substitute stroled forward to sweep home from close range.

A lesser side with less ambitious targets would possibly have settled for the bonus of an unexpected point, but Middlesbrough, urged on by the rejuvenated, partisan crowd, swept forward, determined to inflict yet further damage.

Three minutes after Kernaghan's equalizer, Laws, swung over a cross from the right after deciding against laying the ball off to a colleague who was possibly better placed and Mowbray, described last week as a "magnificent leader" by his manager, rose majestically to head home.

It must have been difficult for Villa to bear as for long spells they had dominated a match, which, while of debatable quality, did contain all the elements guaranteed to hold enthralled a television audience running into millions.

Having seen their initial assaults comfortably repelled by Middlesbrough's highly efficient defence, Villa had finally broken through in the 35th minute when Thompson sprinted 40 yards before clipping the ball across the face of the goal for Daley to turn home.

A jubilant Rioch said: "They were easier to beat at Villa Park than they were here. They are a difficult side because they always keep coming at you which means you have to take your chances."

Philosophical in defeat, Graham Taylor, the Villa manager, said: "I was a bit disappointed. This may look like a setback but we are still top of the second division."

MIDDLESBROUGH: S. Peters, D. Glover, C. Cooper, T. Mowbray, G. Patterson, S. Spink, S. Slaven, S. Ripley (sub: M. Burke), G. Kernaghan, P. Kerr (sub: A. Kernaghan), B. Laws.

ASTON VILLA: N. Spink, K. Gage, B. Selinger, A. Gray, A. Evans, M. Keown, P. Birch, M. Lillis, G. Thompson, T. Daley (sub: S. Gray), A. McNulty, Referee: K. Hoelzel.

Late England call up for Fenwick

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Terry Fenwick's long sojourn in the international wilderness ended at 9.30 yesterday morning, when he was summoned by telephone to return to the reserve squad, from which he had been omitted since the summer of 1986, for the afternoon flight to Israel.

Bobby Robson, who was already without five of his senior representatives, had lost another four members through injury and was left with little more than a skeleton staff. Yet Fenwick is the only replacement to have been called in for the relatively insignificant game in Tel Aviv on Wednesday.

"I needed some cover in the middle of the defence," Robson said. "Fenwick has had a lot of experience, and he has never let us down." England's manager added that he was grateful that Tottenham Hotspur had agreed to release him.

Robson has allowed Mabbitt, his most versatile defender, and Hodge to perform tonight for Tottenham and for the benefit of Monaco. The French club had insisted that Hodge and Hancley, their foreign exiles, should also be retained at White Hart Lane. Similarly, Linaker was retained by his club, Barcelona.

As well as Butcher and Regis, who were already known to be unavailable, Adams, Anderson, Reid and

Steven were also added to the casualty list. Robson considered bringing in Johnston, who will probably take an active part in a Liverpool reserve match this week instead of a passive role on the substitute bench.

Fenwick had appeared in 32 successive squads until the defeat by Argentina in the World Cup quarter-final in Mexico 20 months ago. "I've not been in since then," he said, "although I was out for the first four or five months of the following season because of injury."

"It was looking bleak and I was beginning to think that everything had passed me by. So I'm pleased to get back in, to be able to show my face again."

Frank McAvennie, Celtic's record £800,000 buy from West Ham, yesterday received an unexpected recall by Scotland after 20 months in the international wilderness. McAvennie, aged 28, who scored his club's winning goal against Dundee on Saturday, has been drafted into the Scottish squad for Wednesday's friendly with Saudi Arabia in Riyadh. He comes in along with Aberdeen's utility player, Robert Connor, and Pat Nevin, of Chelsea, after Andy Roxburgh learned that five of his original pool - Sharp, McClair, McCoist, Benn and MacLeod - had withdrawn.

Walsh set to sign for Venables

By Dennis Signy

Paul Walsh, a Liverpool reserve for most of the season, met Terry Venables, the Tottenham Hotspur manager, yesterday for talks about a £500,000 move to the London club.

The managers have agreed a fee, and Walsh is expected to sign and make his debut at White Hart Lane today against Monaco, the French League leaders, who include the England international pair of Glenn Hoddle, the former Tottenham player, and Mark Hateley.

Liverpool signed Walsh from Luton Town in 1984 for £750,000 as a possible successor to Kenny Dalglish, but agreed to the reduced fee as the player had not figured in the manager's plans this season since the arrival of Peter Beardsley.

Venables went to Glasgow on Saturday for a personal check on Ian Ferguson, the St Mirren midfielder player. However, a deal with Rangers worth £750,000 and £1m looks certain after the player was withdrawn last night from the Scotland under-21 squad to meet England.

The player left with his manager, Alex Smith, and a deal should be concluded after a meeting of the St Mirren directors at Love Street this morning.



Distant runner: Coe well out of it during Saturday night's Meadowlands indoor meeting

Lapped Coe well off form

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, New York

If Sebastian Coe wins a third successive Olympic title in Seoul next October, not too many people are going to remember the Vitalis meeting at the Meadowlands, New Jersey, two nights ago. Except for those few thousand Americans present, who saw a most uncharacteristic Coe drop out of the 3,000 metres (being won by Brian Abshire in the world's second best time) with a lap to go, "to ensure that I didn't do myself more harm, which would take two or three weeks to repair".

Coe, coming back after a long injury, suffered the same fate as Steve Ovett here a year ago. He ran with the onset of a cold, or worse. He will wait for a couple of days before deciding whether it is worth doing the second leg of his American race programme, in Los Angeles next Friday.

The delusion was made worse for the American public because of Ovett's demise last

year, when he ran over 4min 14sec for a mile, a performance, which Coe, in pre-race interviews, had virtually promised not to emulate.

He did worse. Apart from a spurt into the middle of the pack chasing Abshire after less than a mile, Coe looked heavily uncomfortable, something he has never done, even in the occasional defeat.

Coe then had the embarrassment of being lapped by Abshire before compounding the ignominy by dropping out. Abshire's was a superlative victory. The steeplechaser, aged 24, led all the way to win in 7min 41.57sec, second only to Emil Puttemans's 7min 39.2sec in 1973.

Coughing and spluttering, Coe described the experience as, "a brutal way of getting back. You could hardly call my race last May a top class one, so I really haven't raced internationally since September '86. But this wasn't indicative of my fitness. I'm going a hell of a lot better than that in training. But racing's a different game. The difficulty is I need races after so long off. But where do you go for an easy outing?"

That was a question which Kirsty Wade and Peter Elliott might have asked. They both ran impressively enough, Elliott lowering the British indoor mile record for the second time in a week, to 3min 53.70sec. But they were both comprehensively beaten, Wade by Doina Melinte's world mile record of 4min 18.86sec (lowering Mary Stoney's previous record of 4min 20.5sec), and Elliott by Marcus O'Sullivan's 3min 50.94sec, itself second only to Eamonn Coghlan's 3min 49.78sec, set on the same 170yd track in 1983. Coghlan, at present injured, nevertheless had a hand in the race. It was on the starting pistol.

Steroids mystery baffles racing

By Michael Seely

The disclosure that the abnormal substance found in the steeplechaser, Carries Clown, was an anabolic steroid poses some complicated questions for the horse-racing world to answer. Indeed, the case promises to be even more tangled than similar ones involving Hill House in 1969 and Vayram in 1980.

"In my experience this is a unique case," Charles Frank, a leading equine veterinary surgeon, said yesterday, "for a horse to have been passed as negative, as Carries Clown was after winning at Ascot on December 19 and then to have been shown as positive a few weeks later, argues some form of regeneration of the substance, which I have never heard of before."

The three cases are not exactly similar, but they all involved steroids. Hill House was eventually adjudged to have manufactured his own corticosteroids after his sensational win in the Schweppes Gold Trophy, and Vayram was adjudged to have made his own anabolic steroids after winning the Champion Stakes at Newmarket.

David Elsworth, Carries Clown's trainer, now faces not only the almost certain loss of the prize-money for the horse's three wins at Newbury, Wincanton and Cheltenham, but also the fact that the gelding may again find to be positive he runs in the Cheltenham Gold Cup, for which he is presently second favourite, on March 17.

"The only option open to me is to have my own private tests taken beforehand," Elsworth said yesterday. "The Jockey Club cannot do it themselves, but they will give me every assistance."

Officially the trainer has been informed only of the results of the Wincanton test.

The brand name of the steroid given to Carries Clown is 19 Nor-testosterone. The recommended reasons for its use are as follows: for debilitating and wasting diseases; delayed fracture mending; anorexia; convalescence; and for promoting protein synthesis in muscle tissue.

Commenting about its use for Carries Clown, Elsworth says: "It's a medication that's widely used and in his case it



Elsworth: mystified

seemed a sensible thing to do as he'd been out of sorts and his blood count had been low." Explaining the Jockey Club rules about prohibited substances, Pipe said: "As with several substances, it is permitted to give steroids as a medication, but they must obviously not show up in tests above the accepted agreed levels."

In practical terms this means that their use must be discontinued some time before a proposed race. "No vet can give precise guidelines," Elsworth said. "They can only tell you what they know from practical experience. And as a general rule 30 days should be sufficient. Carries Clown was given his injection on November 18, over a month before his win in the SGB Chase at Ascot, after which he was found to be negative."

Talking privately about the matter a vet said: "Steroids work far more dramatically in a gelding, as they are sex hormones, as they do not produce them themselves. Of course, if they were allowed to be given them during training they would be able to take their races better and also to race more frequently. It builds geldings up so and makes them feel a million dollars."

Finally, Elsworth added: "It's all very confusing and baffling. My stable has had between four and five hundred winners in the past eight years. We've had scores of routine dope tests taken during that period and this is the first time there's been a positive reaction. There's something wrong somewhere."

Soviet struggle to justify the past

From John Hennessy, Calgary

The Soviet Union are now reported to be a spent force in the world of ice hockey. This was good news for lowly Norway, their first opponents in the Olympic tournament on Saturday. Norway lost by only 5-0.

If that sounds a handsome enough margin of victory, the Soviet team of old, winners of the gold medals in every Winter Olympics except one since 1964, would have been expected to score at least twice as often.

"Russia should have blown them off the ice," one devotee of the sport assured me, "but the Soviet side seemed devoid of full motivation, a natural reaction perhaps to a harsh preparation which separates them from their families for long periods."

Betting could return

Betting on course at golf tournaments could be revived if City Index, a London-based company, receives the PGA European Tour (Michael Pians writes). Nick Stewart, the marketing director of City Index, said: "We have appointed the former Ryder Cup player, Michael King, as our golf consultant, and we have been awaiting his return from South Africa before having official talks with the PGA European Tour."

We saw a glimpse of their true potential when, three times, they lost two men simultaneously for minor transgressions of the laws of this violent sport, and fought like tigers to keep their goal intact for two minutes at a time. Pride then gave them the missing spur.

The first period came and went without a goal, or anything else of significance. Two scores within a minute for the Soviet Union just after the resumption, including a brilliant thrust by Aleksandr Mogilny, surely opened the way to the expected deluge.

But it never came. Certainly, with the Norwegians flagging physically, they added three more goals within eight minutes on either side of the second interval, but for the rest it was largely a barren waste by their past standards.

More Games news, page 37

Ker is in for injured Cramb

Richard Cramb, the Harlequins stand-off half who won his third cap in the win over France on February 6, has been forced to withdraw from Scotland's Rugby Union team to play Wales in Cardiff next Saturday because of knee and ankle ligament injuries sustained in his club's John Player Special Cup match at Berry Hill on Saturday (David Hands writes).

His place goes to Andrew Ker, of Kelso, who, at 33 years of age, becomes the oldest man by three months to win a

first Scottish cap and only the fourth to represent his country at cricket and rugby.

Ker captained Scotland to a 37-0 win over Italy in the B international last December and, on Saturday, scored 18 points in Kelso's win over Boroughmuir. Both Tait (Kelso) and Turnbull (Hawick) were unable to train with Scotland at Murrayfield.

The Welsh squad train this evening, those players who turned out for their clubs at the weekend having reported no ill effects. However, King,

who did not play in Pontypool's win over Llanelli, is having treatment for a shoulder injury.

England's selectors met on Saturday evening to discuss the team to play Scotland on March 5 and the XV for the B international against Italy the day before. Geoff Cooke and Roger Uttley, England's manager and assistant coach, and Alan Davies, the B coach, were at Leicester to watch the cup game against Bath while John Elliott watched Gloucester lose to Wasps.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Official is killed

Le Touquet (Reuters) - A woman official was killed and three other people injured on Saturday during an inspection of a motor-cycle course set by the organizers of this year's Paris to Dakar rally. A car carrying a town hall official, a doctor and two technicians turned over on the course yesterday by 1,200 motorcyclists in the Touquet Enduro competition.

The official died instantaneously, the doctor was seriously hurt and the two other passengers slightly injured.

Rowing fine

Oxford University's top two college rowing crews have been fined for breaking an order not to practice on the Thames which was in flood last week. Oriel were fined £715 and Keble £645.



McColgan: second success

McColgan win

Liz McColgan, the UK 10,000 metre record holder, has scored a second major victory in the United States following her success last weekend when she set a world best time for 10 kilometres. On Saturday the Scot, aged 23, won the Tampa 15 kilometre road race in 47min 42sec, the second fastest time in the world, and bettered only by Ingrid Kristiansen, of Norway.

Rusty Imran

Islamabad (AFP) - Imran Khan said he was fit but a little rusty on his return after 98 days of retirement.

Cuban denial

Havana (Reuters) - Alberto Juantorena, vice-president of the Cuban National Sports Institute, denied rumours here that Teofilo Stevenson, the triple Olympic boxing champion, was in prison. He said Stevenson had been tried and acquitted for a traffic accident and was coaching teenagers in Cuba's eastern Granma Province. However, a foreign diplomat said: "What is certain is that Stevenson is now a non-person in Cuba."

More funds

Jackie Stewart, the former world motor-racing champion, raised £150,000 for the Mechanics Grand Prix Charity Trust at a Mechanics Grand Prix Challenge this weekend.

Bryant escapes to memorable victory

From David Rhys Jones

Minutes after David Bryant, of England, had beaten Willie Wood, of Scotland, by 25 shots to 22 to win the BNZ (Bank of New Zealand) world bowls singles championship at Auckland yesterday, dozens of gulls invaded the Henderson greens, which a torrential thunderstorm had rendered unplayable.

Before the onset of the monsoon, Wood had established what appeared to be a match-winning lead of 14-5 after 13 ends and 21-12 after 19. Bryant, a renowned escapologist, then strung together seven ends to take the lead at 22-21, including in his Houdini-style recovery a dextrous deliverance on the 22nd end after Wood had played a perfect trail to lie a seemingly impenetrable two shots.

Wood scored a hard-won single on the 27th to make it 22-all, but at that point play was held up for almost an hour while groundstaff mopped up the surface water. When the match was resumed there was, as it transpired, only one end left to play - though that end was destined to be a memorable one.

Two excellent openers by Wood, though slightly short, beat Bryant's heavy deliveries, and a back cover bowl with his third gave Wood a perfect head. Bryant struck ruthlessly to remove Wood's shots and lie one himself, but Wood drew the shot again with his fourth and final delivery.

Bryant struck again, remov-

ing not only the shot, but also the only other bowl Wood had on the green, and, because the bowl that did the damage stayed alive, the Englishman scored three shots to win the game at a stroke, and with no right of reply.

The Clevedon player has now won the world singles championship three times, in 1966, 1980 and 1988, and, at 56, seems set to continue his challenge at the Commonwealth Games in Auckland in 1990 and the seventh world championships at Worthing in 1992.

Wood, who is 50, was the runner-up four years ago at Aberdeen, and also won the silver medal, with Willie Paul and Alex McIntosh, in last week's triples event. He qualified for the final not only by beating Robert Weale, a Welshman, 25-20, but because the favourite, Kenny Williams of Australia, lost.

Ireland won the fours event, beating New Zealand, 26-15. Results, page 37

Racing into the Nineties

Horse racing has proved one of the boom sports of the 1980s and promises to expand further in the next decade. Attendances are up, prize-money and sponsorship interest have never been higher and overseas interest in British racing is unprecedented. Starting in *The Times* tomorrow, Horse Power, a unique four-part series, will study the politics and people in racing, and examine how the sport may develop in the 1990s.

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